THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • NOVEMBER 30, 2020 • ₹7.00 • PAGES 36 • LATE CITY EDITION

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EXPECT HARSHER WINTER IN THE NORTH, WARNS MET DEPT

There is also a higher chance of cold wave this winter, the Indian Meteorological Department said on Sunday

LA NINA BLAMED FOR ABNORMAL CHILL

"Below normal minimum temperatures are likely over most subdivisions of north, northwest, central and few subdivisions over east India," the IMD said in its winter forecast. It blamed it on the prevailing moderate La Nina conditions. La Nina happens when the surface water in the equatorial Pacific Ocean cools. This leads to a drop in global temperature

DELHI TO SEE COLDEST NOVEMBER IN 10 YRS

- Temperatures in several parts of north India, including Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan, were below normal on Sunday
- Delhi is set to record its coldest November in 10 years. Average minimum temperature in the city from Nov 1 to 29 was 10 degrees Celsius. The normal minimum for the month is 12 degrees Celsius

7 degrees

CELSIUS WAS DELHI'S MINIMUM TEMPERATURE ON SUNDAY

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TRICHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

LIBERAL INVOKING OF SEDITION LAW IN BJP-RULED STATES

SANA SHAKIL/RITWIKA MITRA @New Delhi

WHEN the Bombay High Court last week berated the Mumbai Police for slapping sedition charges against actor Kangana Ranaut and her sister Rangoli, asking "if anybody doesn't fall within the line of the government, will that be sedition," it was only underlining the increasing trend of governments to misuse this colonial law.

Data maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau, which started collating sedition numbers since 2014, shows that while there were 47 cases registered under Section 124A of the IPC (sedition) that year, it jumped to 93 in 2019, an increase of 98 per cent.

While 27 states or Union Territories had not registered a single sedition case in 2014, that number fell to 19 last year, indicating more state governments were willing to charge people under the stringent law.

An analysis by this newspaper showed that BJP state governments invoked the law more than non-BJP ones.

This is best illustrated by the experience in Karnataka, Assam and Jammu and Kashmir. The first two have BJP regimes while J&K is under Central rule. In all the three, there was a spike in sedition cases after they came under BJP rule.

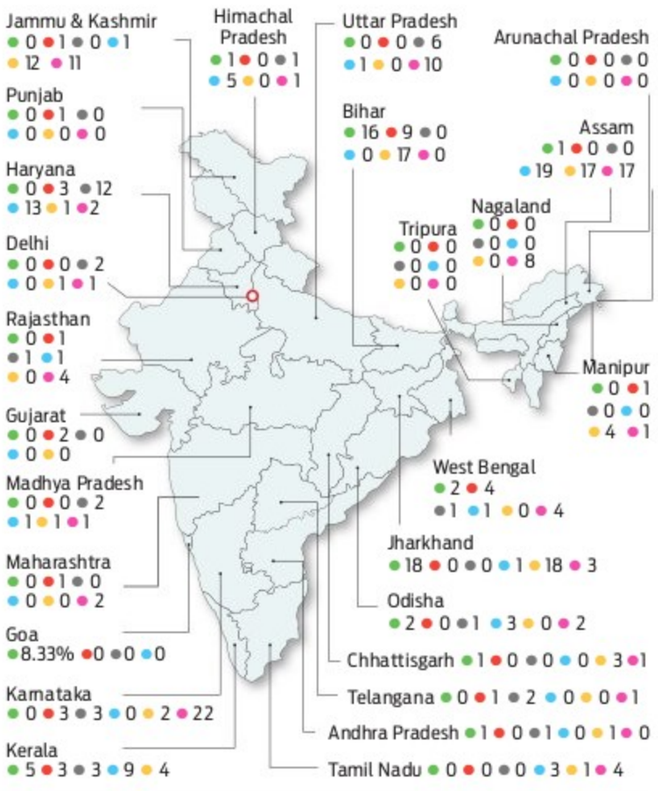
In 2019, Karnataka saw the maximum sedition cases (22), followed by Assam (17) and J&K (11). Under Congress rule in Karnataka, two cases were filed in 2018; three each in 2015 and 2016; and none in 2014 and 2017.

Assam recorded 17 sedition cases each in two consecutive years of 2018 and 2019 — slightly lower than 2017 when it recorded 19 cases — the highest in the country for that year.

CONTINUED ON: P8

EXPRESS MAPS

NUMBERS SAY IT ALL


2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019
Jammu & Kashmir 0 0 1 0 0 1 12 11
Himachal Pradesh 1 0 0 1 5 0 0 1
Uttar Pradesh 0 0 0 6 1 0 0 10
Arunachal Pradesh 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Punjab 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0
Bihar 16 9 0 0 17 0
Assam 1 0 0 0 19 17 17
Haryana 0 0 3 12 13 1 2
Tripura 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Nagaland 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 8
Delhi 0 0 0 2 0 1 1
Rajasthan 0 1 1 1 0 4
Manipur 0 1 0 0 4 1
Gujarat 0 2 0 0 0 0
West Bengal 2 4 1 1 0 0 4
Madhya Pradesh 0 0 0 2 1 1 1
Jharkhand 18 0 0 0 1 18 3
Maharashtra 0 1 0 0 0 0 2
Odisha 2 0 0 1 3 0 0 2
Goa 8.33% 0 0 0
Chhattisgarh 1 0 0 0 0 0 3 1
Karnataka 0 3 3 0 0 2 22
Telangana 0 1 2 0 0 0 1
Andhra Pradesh 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0
Kerala 5 3 3 9 4
Tamil Nadu 0 0 0 0 3 0 1 4

Source: NCRB 2014-2019

SOME PROMINENT CASES

2012: Cartoonist Aseem Trivedi booked for allegedly mocking national emblem in his cartoon; charges dropped after nationwide outrage

2014: 60 Kashmiri students in UP charged with sedition for cheering Pakistan in a cricket match; charges dropped later

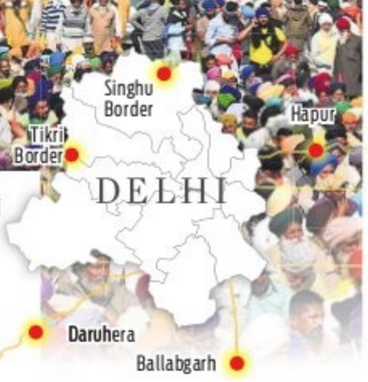
2014: Seven booked for sedition in Kerala for not standing up during national anthem

2016: JNU student leader Kanhaiya Kumar charged with sedition for allegedly raising anti-national slogans

2018: Activist Sudha Bhardwaj and others booked under various charges, including sedition and supporting Maoists; continue to be in jail

2020: Sedition charge slapped on Keralite journalist Siddique Kappan, who was on his way to Hathras to cover the Dalit gang-rape and murder case

Farmers blocking the Singhu border in Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI



FARMERS REJECT GOVT PROPOSAL

Say it came with strings; decide to block three more entry points to Delhi and choke it

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

REFUSING to accept Union Home Minister Amit Shah's offer to relocate to the Burari grounds in north Delhi to begin the talks process, Punjab farmers on Sunday continued to stay put on the Delhi border, attacking the proposal for having preconditions.

While the farmers have parked themselves on the Singhu and Tikri borders, they decided to block three more entry points into Delhi—Ballabgarh, Daruhera and Hapur.

Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla wrote to the 32 protesting farmers' unions in Hindi on Saturday citing the winter chill and the fear of a spike in Covid cases because of the massing, to persuade them to shift to Burari. Once they relocate, a team of Union ministers will be ready to hold talks with them at Vigyan Bhavan, the letter said, but it failed to get traction.

Shah's offer was unanimously rejected at a meeting of all 32 Punjab farmers unions at the Singhu border. "We are ready for talks, but the Union government should not impose any pre-condition," the leaders said and likened the Burari ground to an open jail.

CONTINUED ON: P7

Protest in B'luru today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FARMERS and members of dalit and workers' organisations in Karnataka will stage a protest in Bengaluru on Monday, joining cause with the thousands protesting at the gates of Delhi against the Centre's farm Bills. They have also planned a prolonged protest when the state legislature meets for the winter session from December 7.

Karnataka farmers are opposing the Centre's farm bills and also the State's move to amend the Karnataka Land Reforms Act and APMC Act. P4

SHAH'S HYDERABAD SHOW

Union Home Minister Amit Shah holds a roadshow in Hyderabad's Warasiguda on Sunday as part of BJP's campaign for the December 1 Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation election | S SENBAGAPANDIYAN | REPORT: P5

EXPRESS READ

CoBRA officer killed, 9 injured in IED blast

RAIPUR: An officer of the CRPF's jungle warfare unit CoBRA was killed while nine commandos were injured, after Maoists triggered an IED blast in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Saturday night. They said the blast took place in the Chintalnar forest area at 9pm.

CM's political seccy to be discharged today

Bengaluru: Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa's political secretary NR Santosh, who attempted suicide and was being treated at MS Ramaiah Hospital, has recovered, said doctors. He will be discharged today, after which he will be questioned by police.

WITH THIS ISSUE THE ESSENTIAL CAMPUS DIGEST edex YOUR LIFE COACH — 36 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID), 4 OF CITY EXPRESS, 4 PAGES OF SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

UP police registers first case under new anti-conversion law

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

POLICE in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly district registered the first case under the state's new anti-conversation law on Saturday, just hours after it was promulgated.

It was on a complaint filed by a resident of Sharifnagar village, against a young man who allegedly tried to force his daughter to convert to Islam and marry him. The accused, the complainant alleged, was trying to "coerce, coax and allure" his daughter to convert to Islam and marry him.

The accused is absconding.

Sources said the girl used to frequently complain about the man. Initially, she tried to avoid him fearing disrepute. But when she consistently refused his advances, he threatened to abduct her.

The harassment did not stop even after she got married in June.

Things got ugly when the man visited the girl's house on Saturday. He pressed her family to bring her back from her in-laws' house. When they refused, he threatened to kill them. "He was not listening to us, and was mounting pressure on me and my family through abuses and death threats to fulfil his desire," the girl's father alleged.

On Saturday night, the father approached the police. A case was soon registered under the provisions of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, 2020. Violation of the code is punishable by a jail term of up to five years and a fine of ₹15,000. In case the victim is a minor, or someone from SC or ST community, the jail sentence could stretch up to 10 years.

INCREASING DEMAND

Govt may allow agri courses in pvt colleges

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @Bengaluru

EVEN as the country is wracked by farmers' protests over controversial farm laws, the Karnataka Government plans to allow private colleges to start agriculture courses in order to meet the increasing demand.

With the land reforms Act allowing anyone to purchase land and people going back to villages amid the pandemic, a further increase in demand for agri-related courses is expected, say experts.

In Karnataka, there are six universities related to farming — University of Agricultural Sciences in Bengaluru, Dharwad, Shivamogga and Raichur, University of Veterinary Sciences in Bidar and Horticulture university in Bagalkot under which 26 government colleges are offering graduation and post-graduation courses. CONTINUED ON: P5

TO FEW FOR TOO MANY

NAME OF UNIVERSITY	NO. OF GOVT COLLEGES
UAS, Bengaluru	4
UAS, Dharwad	3
UAS,Raichur	3
UAS, Shivamogga	1
UHS, Bagalkot	8
K'taka Veterinary Animal & FSU, Bidar	7

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- **Maturity Benefit:** Balance 40% of Basic Sum Assured plus Bonus
- **Premium Waiver Benefit Rider:** Option available
- **Option to defer the Money Back Instalments:** Available during the tenure of the policy

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Zindagi ke saath bhi, Zindagi ke baad bhi.

ALMANAC TODAY

Monday: 30/11/2020 • **Year:** Sarvari • **Ayana:** Dakshinayana • **Ritu:** Sharad • **Masa:** Karthika • **Paksha:** Shukla • **Tithi:** Purnima 1.47 pm • **Nakshatra:** Rohini (Whole day) • Moon in Mithuna Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am • **Gulikakala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

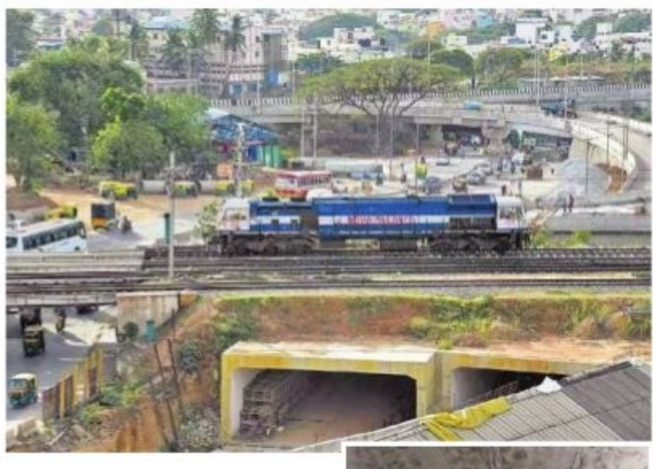
WEATHER — MIN 19°C | MAX 27°C — **FORECAST** Partly cloudy

Sunrise 6.25am | Sunset 5.51pm | Moonrise 5.54pm | Moonset 6.10am

WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

OKALIPURAM UNDERBRIDGE LEAKS PLUGGED

After many plaints from motorists; expert team from Nagpur fixes issue in 6 days



(Top) The road underbridge near the second entry to KSR Railway Station. (R) Work in progress at the underbridge

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

AFTER repeated complaints from commuters about water leaking from two road underbridges (RUBs) near the KSR Bengaluru City railway station, the problem has finally been redressed. After six days of work, a team from Nagpur plugged all the leaks in the underbridges near the second entry on Saturday using special material.

People who commute between Majestic and Rajaji Nagar use these RUBs which are part of the much delayed eight-lane Rs 103-crore signal-free Okkalipuram corridor project jointly taken up by BBMP and the Railways.

Senior Divisional Engineer (East), Co-ordination, Bengaluru Railway Division, H Satyajeet told TNIE, "We brought a team of four experts from Nagpur to plug the leaks. A concrete canvas was laid on the entire portion which will ensure nothing can seep through any more. The team used geo-synthetic material to carry out the job."

Asked why it took so long, despite numerous complaints, the official said, "We had to set up road blocks and this is a very busy section. It took us three days to rectify issues in one underbridge and another three days for the second one."

Divisional Railway Manager A K Verma said, "We are trying to ensure that any inconvenience caused to the public is taken care of."

The foundation stone for the 660-metre corridor connecting Rajajinagar-Old Mysore Road junction with Fountain Circle (Khoday Circle) was laid in December 2012 with a March 2014 deadline. Numerous problems have been encountered over the years and even the March 2020 deadline was missed.

Work on two more RUBs are yet to start as mammoth power cables have come in the way and need to be shifted, said a senior official. "We have submitted letters to the Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd. It will take us anywhere between 9 and 12 months after the cables are removed to put the other two RUBs in place."

You can now top up smart cards at Metro station

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

IN a relief for commuters, Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is now permitting topping up of cards inside Metro stations, using debit or credit cards. Tokens are still not being issued.

Commuters had numerous complaints as only online or mobile app top-up was permitted for smart cards, after train operations resumed on September 7. The restriction was in place to prevent crowding at Metro stations to top up cards, and thereby reduce the spread of Covid-19 infection.

BMRCL Managing Director Ajay Seth told *The New Indian Express*, "We started permitting top-up of travel cards using debit and credit cards at stations, around 10 days ago. Cash is not accepted and tokens for one-time travel are not being issued."

BMRCL Executive Director A S Shankar said, "This facility was launched on November 18. However, we prefer the public using mobile app or online facility to top up as it would be contactless. Commuters can avoid standing in a queue."

Metro authorities are also working on introducing other options to top up smart cards, which could take eight to ten days to operationalise, he added. "We are planning to allow the Bank of India Static QR code for top-up as it would be faster. Payment through PhonePe and PayTM apps are also in the pipeline," Seth said.

The Metro now has a daily average occupancy of one-eighth of its pre-March ridership. The lack of easy top-up facilities is cited as one of the reasons why the public does not want to use the Metro.

A lack of publicity for this new facility has left many in the dark about it. Dr Shashidhar, who commutes on the Metro four days a week, from Srirampura to his workplace on RV Road, said, "I used my debit card to recharge my smart card recently. I tried using the Namma Metro app, but it failed. Not many know that this facility has been launched at stations."

EXPRESS READ

KEA releases results for engg students

The Karnataka Examination Authority announced results for admissions to engineering and other courses based on mock seat allotment on Sunday. The allottment was based on merit. Candidates who are unsatisfied with their results can change, reorder, delete and add course and college preference. **ENS**

SUV collides with truck, 4 injured

Four people escaped with minor injuries after their SUV went over a road median and rammed a speeding container truck on the opposite road on Nelamangala highway on Saturday. A police officer said the incident took place at 11.30pm when the four came to Dobbespet. A case of reckless driving has been registered against the car driver. **ENS**

IN THEIR SUNDAY BEST

People take a stroll on Sunday on Church Street, which has been made a pedestrian-only stretch on weekends | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

KSPCB starts real-time tracking of effluent flow

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has set up a real-time monitoring system to ensure proper discharge of effluents from small industries to Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) in the city. There are seven CETPs in the city which cater to small industries that do not have the space to house their own plants, or can't afford the technology.

Vijayakumar Gogi, chairman, KSPCB, told *The New Indian Express*, "This has been done to ensure pollutants are discharged effectively. We started it last month and officials are keeping track of it online."

Real-time monitoring will aid in ensuring effluents are sent to the treament plants on time | EXPRESS

Doddababallapura, KG Halli, Kengeri, Kumbalgod and Tumukuru Road are some areas where CEFPs are set up. "Since all data is available online now, we can track whether firms are sending across discharged effluents or not," Gogi said.

A senior official said, "The quantity of effluents from each factory and timings are sent to us. The quality of the untreated water and the output post treatment can also be tracked."

He added, "GPS trackers have been fixed on to tankers bringing effluents from factories for better tracking."

KSPCB is also in the process of developing an app to put all relevant information out in the public domain. It will be available on Google Play Store, the official said. "This will allow the public and staffers to interact with us," he added.

PAY HIKE FOR BASE LECTURERS

ENS @Bengaluru

THE teaching staff of the Dr B R Ambedkar School of Economics University will soon get pay on par with the pay scale of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR). This was decided by the governing council of the institute at its recent meeting.

A source privy to the development told TNIE that such a proposal was made earlier. This time, the council has decided to place the recommendation before the government for approval.

The lecturers at present are on a UGC pay scale, and the university hopes to get good lecturers with this hike in pay. While UGC professors earn ₹2,97,352 per month, those teaching at IGIDR earn ₹3,05,376. Associate professors under the UGC scale get ₹1,79,304 per month and those under IGIDR earn ₹1,90,456.

The council also pushed for steps to be taken at the earliest for the appointment of new faculty members.

During the 9th meeting of the managing committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Chief Minister C N Ashwath Narayan, it was decided that Ambedkar's statue will be installed at the institute. The council is also trying to inaugurate their new campus at Nagarabhavi on Ambedkar Jayanti and plans to invite Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

30th November: The impact of the recent lunar alignments is likely to continue over the next few days, and all of us are liable to feel a little stressed. It is a perfect moment to get to the underlying truth, but there's a snag - all of us have our own, different views of what is true!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

The Moon's enthusiastic presence in your chart makes it clear you must attend to home affairs and family relationships. In love, the temperature could rise as it becomes apparent that what you need, and what a partner wants, are not always the same thing. The quicker you find that out the sooner you can find a compromise!

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)

Life should be relatively quiet over the next few days, so you should be able to sidestep whatever pressures do come up. You may therefore have a welcome opportunity to recover from recent stress and strain. Use it! Very soon partners will be bombarding you with ideas.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

It's all a matter of gaining on the roundabouts what you lose on the swings. The emphasis in your chart is on pleasure. This doesn't mean having fun and putting your feet up, but seeing to it that you extract all possible satisfaction and enjoyment from even the dullest routine.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

The Moon suggests that emotional tension now lies in the past, and that if you're still feeling a little stressed, it's because of events which took place last week or even earlier. If you have your wits about you, you can put it all into context - and even forget all about it!

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Domestic affairs will continue to niggle away at your peace of mind. However, there is little that can be done just yet, perhaps not until next week and probably not until four weeks' time. I know it's hard to wait, but that might be just what you have to do.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

You're probably aware of your artistic talents, and you may also be very conscious that if the coming season is to be fruitful you should set out to develop all those personal skills which are all too often overlooked. No more excuses, please!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Venus, your planetary ruler, is hesitating. The one conclusion is that you may leave aside various tired relationships, and begin to operate in almost any romantic sphere you choose. And the emphasis is on precisely that - deciding for yourself who you want to be with.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

There's still a certain secrecy in your love life, although it must be said that your feelings are your business and yours alone. Respect confidences, have regard for other people's desires, and you should do just fine. And if someone wants to cool it for a while, that's fine, too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

Your talents are many but you sometimes lack the determination necessary to develop them. However, this is a time of year when you should consider all appropriate ways to improve the quality of your life by linking up with like-minded people. At work, as they say, it's who you know that counts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

In spite of your current doubts, a public or professional move, which is now becoming inevitable, will be for the better. Mercury, ruling your ideas, is forcing you to face up to long-range plans for a change. What it really insists, though, is that you broaden your horizons.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

There seems to be an element of personal rancour, and even though some causes lie in the past, it looks as if a certain amount of friction at work could persist over the coming weeks. It's up to you to direct your energies constructively, and not to fall into a time-wasting trap.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

You are now coming to the end of a twelve-month period in relationships which has been in some senses hugely enjoyable, in others intense and gruelling. You will very soon be drawing a veil over recent events. You might keep a few mementoes or hang on to a memory or two, but that's as far as it goes.

THE PHANTOM

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

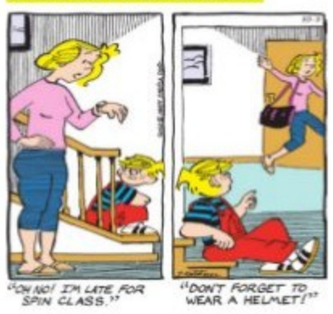
I CAN'T GO ON THE HIKE TODAY, I HAVE A HEADACHE, MY FEET HURT, IT'S TOO HOT, IT'S TOO COLD, I'M TOO TIRED, I HAVE BLISTERS, CORNS, BONE SPURS...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, BEETLE?
THROWING EXCUSES AT YOU, HOPING ONE WILL STICK

BLONDIE

ARE YOU TAKING A NAP, MR. B?
I'M TRYING TO, ELMO
MR. B., I HAVE AN APP ON MY PHONE THAT HELPS PEOPLE RELAX AND FALL ASLEEP
SOUNDS GOOD, ELMO
I NEED AN APP THAT SHUTS OFF THE OUTSIDE WORLD LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO FINISH A NAP

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE



Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

			6			9	3	
	1	6			8			
	5					8		
6			9			4	7	
8								1
	4	7			2			9
		8					4	
			3			6	2	
	7	5			6			

HARD

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

4	5	7	6	8	9	3	2	1
6	9	3	4	2	1	5	7	8
1	8	2	7	5	3	9	6	4
7	1	4	8	9	2	6	3	5
9	3	8	1	6	5	7	4	2
2	6	5	3	7	4	1	8	9
8	2	1	9	3	7	4	5	6
3	4	6	5	1	8	2	9	7
5	7	9	2	4	6	8	1	3

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SFINF

UGYBG

TRECIM

BFAULI

Wow, John! You did it! You must be so happy!
How could you tell?
IT TOOK HIM A YEAR TO LOSE 100 POUNDS, WHICH RESULTED IN A ---
Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Ans. here: ( ) ( ) ( )

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HEAVY MIMIC HYMNAL BUDGET
Answer: The arrogant king who could say "hello" in many languages was — "HI" AND MIGHTY

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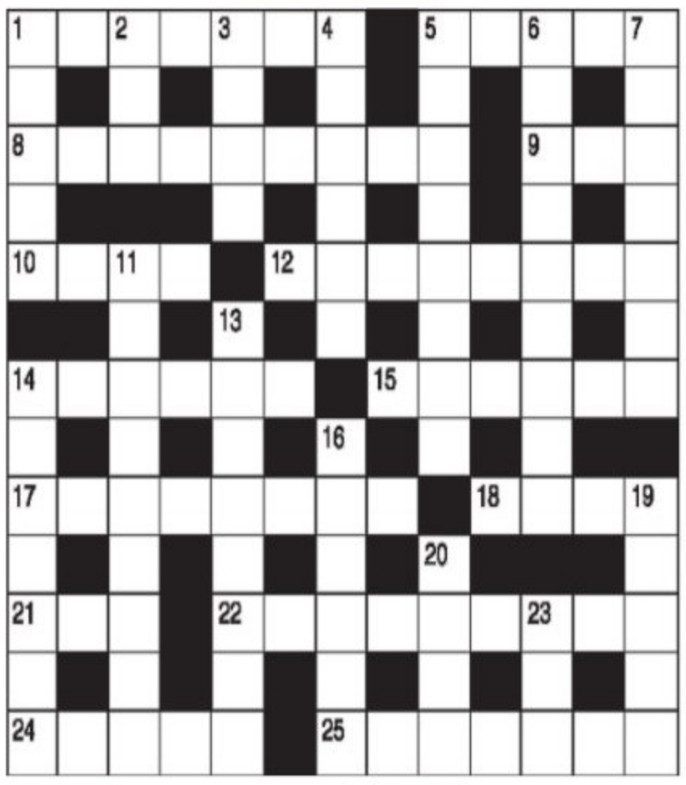
CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Fortune-teller led by the hand (7)
5 Not an account based on fact (5)
8 Bolt from the blue? (9)
9 A short distance behind (3)
10 Gets harder scenes to play (4)
12 A romantic tangle (4,4)
14 Sleuth goes out in a hurry (6)
15 Old ship with two sets of propellers (6)
17 Come again to gather fruit (8)
18 Melancholy and a shade off-colour (4)
21 A sailor - in fact a real sea-dog (3)
22 Vera or city? (4-5)
24 Directed a small floating group (5)
25 One who shares equal rent perhaps (7)

DOWN

1 Questions the causes of inflation? (5)
2 It prolongs the service (3)
3 An image I'd behold rising (4)
4 He hopes to get suitable customers (6)
5 Frantic if centre is moved (8)
6 A piece of one's mind? (5,4)
7 Give one the right to call (7)
11 Willing female (9)
13 Tumbles over the coal scuttle - how careless! (8)
14 Cite her conversion as a dissenter (7)
16 Recollect and telephone somebody (4,2)
19 Three is odd number (5)
20 It may guide the traveller over deserts (4)
23 Vessel in mourning (3)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Interest, 5 Grab, 9 Emits, 10 Erasing, 11 Second person, 13 Rather, 14 Phrase, 17 Motor coaches, 20 Tensest, 21 Usage, 22 Spot, 23 Leathery.

Down: 2 Item, 2 Trident, 3 Restore order, 4 Steady, 6 Rails, 7 Beginner, 8 Take the count, 12 Promotes, 15 Average, 16 Goethe, 18 Tango, 19 Levy.

To express solidarity with farmers protesting near Delhi, farmers' associations are also planning a massive protest in Bengaluru from December 7 when the winter session of the state legislature starts

Winter puts kids at risk of seizures

Pneumonia, fever linked to febrile spasms; gap in care due to pandemic affects epileptics

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

DIPPING temperatures are cause for fresh worry. Doctors warn that infections in children which cause fever, can increase risk of seizures. This can happen to either children suffering from epilepsy or can be febrile seizures, where the child is otherwise healthy and does not suffer from epilepsy.

"Though there is no link between the winter season and epilepsy, children are more likely to contract chest infections, cough and cold during winters, and the associated fever can trigger a seizure in a child who has epilepsy," said Dr Ravi Kumar C P, Consultant, Paediatric Neurology, Aster CMI Hospital.

The hospital received a case where a boy, aged just under three years and an epileptic since six months of age, suffered pneumonia which worsened his seizures. He had missed repeated medical consultations during the past nine months due to the pandemic, and had to be admitted in hospital, his medications were adjusted and he was discharged on Saturday.

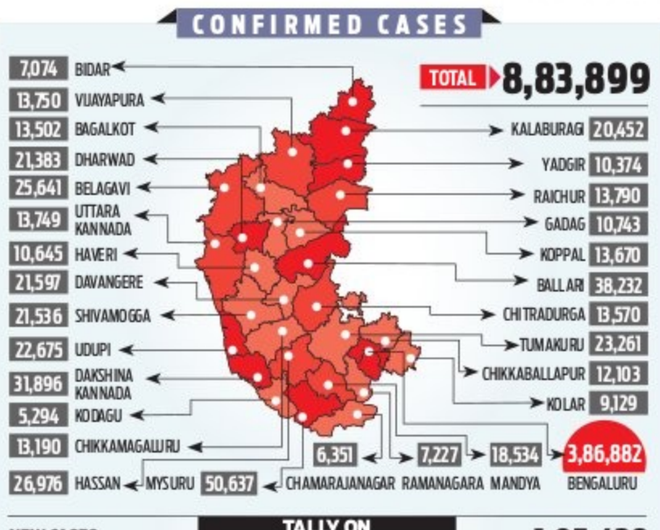
"There are some systems in our body that increase electrical activity, and others that keep it under check. When a person has fever, it heightens the excitatory system in the body. When electrical activity crosses a certain threshold, it leads to seizures, as the fever lowers this threshold," Dr Kumar explained.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, parents have been refraining from visiting pediatricians. This can have a negative impact on the prognosis for the child. The younger the child, the higher the risk in delaying medical advice. Uncontrolled seizures severely impact the developing brain, and can have a negative long-term effect in epilepsy patients.

"When children get upper respiratory tract infections, owing to change in climate, it can lead to febrile seizures. These are common and medication is not recommended. They don't have long-lasting effects and children outgrow them by five years of age. We teach parents how to manage the seizures and underlying infection, including medicines for fever for 3 to 5 days," said Dr Prabhjot Kaur, Consultant, Pediatric Neurology, Rainbow Children's Hospital.

In cases of epilepsy, however, treatment is tailored for the child, and could include changing the dosage, withdrawing, adding or changing specific medication. These depend on the kind of epilepsy, reasons causing it and additional factors contributing to seizures, Dr Kaur said.

"Parents can ensure warm clothing and caps during such weather.. Children need to eat and sleep well, and not miss follow-up appointments with the doctor," Dr Kumar added.



TALLY ON SUNDAY

NEW CASES 1,291	NEW DEATHS 15	TOTAL DEATHS 11,765	1,05,428 Samples tested
NEW RECOVERIES 1,530			24,503 Total active cases
			8,47,612 Total recoveries

12,618 frontline workers on list for vaccine in Vijayapura

MAHESH M GOUDAR
@ Vijayapura

THE district administration has submitted a list of 12,618 frontline workers, from the government and private sectors, to the state.

Following the government's directions, the district administration has identified frontline workers, including 7,774 workers from private sector.

Deputy Commissioner P Sunil Kumar told TNIE, "We have collected information of only health warriors of the department of health and family welfare, and we have not got orders to consider Covid warriors from other departments."

On directions of the Union government to be equipped with sufficient infrastructure to store the Covid vaccine, the district administration has sent a report to the higher authorities, stating that it has 10,610 pieces of equipment, including 100 ice line refrigerators, 83 deep freezers, 1,180 vaccine carriers, 108 cold boxes, 9,136 ice packs and three walk-in-coolers.

EXPRESS READ

State's positivity rate stands at 8.02 per cent

Bengaluru: At the beginning of November, the state's positivity rate was at 10.32 per cent and a day away from December, the positivity rate stands at 8.02 per cent. With 1,291 cases reported on Sunday, the total cases now stand at 8,83,899. Of these, Bengaluru reported 686 cases and 18,319 active cases. Back on October 11, there were 66,854 active cases in the city. The city's recovery rate stands at 93.92 per cent and the state's recovery rate stands at 95.89 per cent. 15 deaths have been reported on Sunday, taking the death toll in the state to 11,765 cases. There were 1,530 discharges on Sunday. ENS

Mysuru tourism continues to bleed

KARTHIK K K @Mysuru

THOUGH active cases have gone below 600-mark and the positivity rate continues to see a declining trend in Mysuru, the tourism and hospitality sector continues to suffer.

Mysuru, like any other destination continues to get exposed to the tourism crisis, and the footfall of tourists post-Covid is a testimony to it. Mysuru Palace, the popular tourist destination, which would see over 36 lakh tourists every year, had only 1.53 lakh visitors in the last eight months (post pandemic), which is even less than the monthly footfall.

The palace was opened following Unlock 1.0 in June and

gradually picked up by August. But the worrying mortality rate and the high number of active cases played a spoilsport as many tourists avoided the city.

However, hoteliers and travel agents had hoped for a revival in the Dasara season, but the confusion over throwing open the tourist destination and restrictions during the Dasara festivities killed their hopes.

"Though the footfall of visitors has increased compared to what we got till August, it still needs to pick up. We are getting the weekend crowd but weekday visitors are a no-show," said a tourist guide.

Meanwhile, travel agents and hoteliers stress on the need to promote Mysuru as a safe tourist destination. "There is interest among people to travel to Mysuru but these can be translated into bookings only if the government promotes tourism The district has fared well in recoveries compared to other districts. We have taken all safety measures in the interest of tourists," said a travel agent.

Goa tourists fly from K'taka to Maha to avoid 'unnecessary' Covid test

VINCENT D'SOUZA @Mangaluru

THE new travel rules announced by Maharashtra government in view of the second wave of Covid-19 have led to many taking a detour to reach the state.

People entering Maharashtra from states witnessing a Covid spike like Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Goa are required to show RT-PCR negative report on arrival at airports, railway stations and state borders, or have to undergo immediate tests.

To skip this, many people from Goa are travelling by road to airports in Belagavi, Hubballi and Mangaluru, from where they take flights to Mumbai and other places in Maharashtra. If they travel directly from Panjim to airports in Maharashtra, they will have to stick to the travel rules but that does not apply if they board flights from Karnataka.

Hubballi Airport director Pramod Kumar Thakre said that they do not keep track of the travel record of passengers boarding flights at their airport and added that he needs to check if the traffic to Maharashtra has increased recently. But sources in private airlines confirmed that occupancy has been full in the last few days.

A Mumbai-based family that drove all the way to Mangaluru from Old Goa to take a Mumbai flight on Saturday said they had to change the itinerary. "We had no plans to visit Udupi and Mangaluru and were supposed to return from Goa. We had to take a flight from Mangaluru to skip the 'unnecessary' Covid test."

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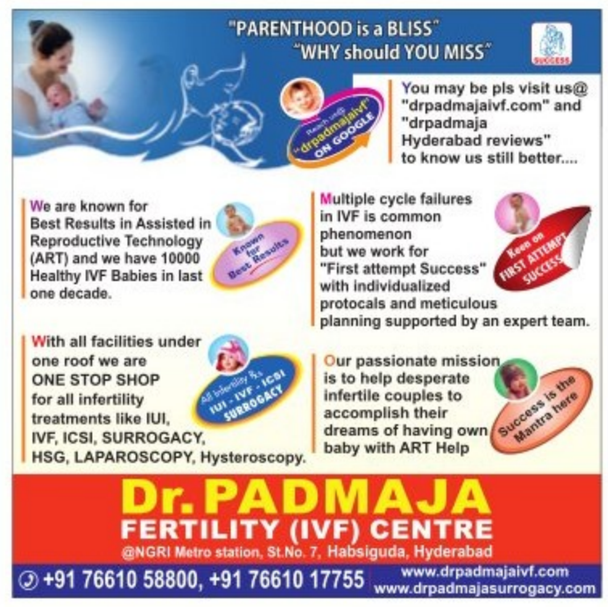
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Minister of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj K S Eshwarappa on Sunday said, "The government should have given the ST status to the Kuruba community long back but none of them made efforts. I won't criticise any government or parties for this but I will make sincere efforts to get the ST tag for the community"

STRAWS IN THE WIND

Jarkiholi's trips grist for dinner politics

The 'Gokak Sahukar', as he is known in his home district Belagavi, Ramesh Jarkiholi may be trying to position himself as leader of the new entrant group to the BJP, but the breakaway faction members, who stayed with him in Mumbai last year to bring down the JDS-Congress coalition government, seem to be none too happy. Some ministers from this group met in Bengaluru on Friday night to discuss politics over dinner, and came to the decision that the water resources minister may be visiting Delhi frequently for his own work, and not necessarily to pursue the case of other less-fortunate members who were not inducted into the Yediyurappa cabinet. So now, they have decided to meet the CM and central leaders as a group. Safety, they say, is in numbers. Some ministerial hopefuls, though, continue to meet Jarkiholi...

KPCC president D K Shivakumar at a temple in Udupi

DKS appeases the goddesses

Looks like KPCC president DK Shivakumar is not just seeking party workers' cooperation, but also divine blessings, especially from goddesses. Over the past couple of days, Shivakumar has been visiting many districts, addressing party workers and strengthening the party base. But wherever he is, he makes it a point to offer prayers at local famous temples. On Saturday morning, he visited the famous Marikamba temple at Sirsi, and later the same day, he was at Brahmi Durgaparameshwari temple in Kundapura, along with party leaders. On Sunday, he visited the Kollur Mookambika temple in Udupi.

In the right place at the right time

KPCC president D K Shivakumar airdashed to Gujarat's Bharuch district recently to participate in the burial of former political secretary to Sonia Gandhi and party treasurer Ahmed Patel, who succumbed to complications due to Covid. Accompanying him on a private jet were some little-known Congress workers. The multitude of big party leaders -- Siddaramaiah, Mallikarjun Kharge, HK Patil, RV Deshpande and Ramalinga Reddy — did not join Shivakumar. Whether they were unwilling to go as it was a Covid death, or because of their vulnerable age, is not known. Rahul Gandhi, though, was among those who reached the Patel residence to lend his shoulder.

State farmers to protest today in solidarity show

Plan massive agitation on December 7 when Winter session starts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TO express solidarity with farmers who are protesting near Delhi, farmers in Karnataka will stage a protest demonstration in Bengaluru on Monday afternoon. The farmers' associations are also planning a massive protest in Bengaluru from December 7 when the winter session of the state legislature starts.

State Organising Secretary of Karnataka Sugarcane Growers' Associations, A Devaraj, said members of the Aikya Horata Samiti, which consists of farmers, dalit and workers' organisations, will stage a symbolic protest near Mahatma Gandhi statue at Maurya Circle in Bengaluru on Monday. Condemning the police action of using water cannons and tear gas on protesting farmers of Punjab and Haryana, Manju said the Samiti will continue to protest against anti-farmer policies.

Karnataka Rajya Raita Sangha president Kodihalli Chandrashekar, who was in Delhi for three days to take part in the farmers' protest, said they will organise a massive protest in Bengaluru on December 7. "Around 10,000 farmers from across the state are expected to take part," he said. They are also planning to continue the protest in Bengaluru when the winter session will be held from December 7 to 15, he added.

Farmers harvest ragi at Akkiupete, near Bengaluru, on Sunday | SHRIRAM BN

How can they ignore farmers' interests to help big firms? What was the urgency of bringing Bills when farmers are in great distress due to Covid and other reasons?

Kurubur Shantakumar, State Sugarcane Growers' Association president

Farmers in Karnataka are opposing the Centre's farm bills and the State Government's move to table Bills amending the Karnataka Land Reforms Act and APMC Act that got stuck in the Legislative Council in the previous session.

Chandrashekar said the Centre must immediately call protesting farmers for talks and understand their concerns. The farms Bills are only intended to help corporate firms and not farmers, he contended.

State Sugarcane Growers' Association president Kurubur Shantakumar said the government's priority must be to address farmers' concerns, and not helping corporates.

CM secy's suicide bid may not be over financial issues: DKS

Udupi: KPCC president D K Shivakumar on Sunday said here that he has sought a thorough investigation into the alleged suicide attempt of Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's political secretary and relative N R Santhosh. "He had no major financial issues, and obviously, there are political reasons behind his suicide bid," he said. Shivakumar said he does not have the videos that allegedly pushed Santhosh to the edge, but he knew of many deals that Santhosh had in political circles. "Santhosh's wife too has spoken about political pressure behind his suicide bid," he added. **ENS**

Santhosh to be discharged today, police lie in wait

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa's Political Secretary and relative N R Santhosh, who attempted suicide and admitted to MS Ramaiah Hospital on Friday, has completely recovered.

CM's political secretary Santosh

Dr Sanjay Kulkarni, who is the treating doctor, said on Sunday that Santhosh will be discharged on Monday. The Sadashivanagar police have taken up a case and kept track of updates from the hospital. Once Santhosh is discharged, his statement will be recorded to ascertain the exact reason behind his suicide attempt, said an investigating officer. Santhosh allegedly took an overdose of sleeping pills on Friday and was rushed to the hospital.

At the hospital, police personnel have been deployed to control the crowds. His suicide attempt has taken a political turn with the Congress demanding a detailed probe. Santhosh's wife Jhanvi had said that he was under immense pressure since the BJP government came to power last year.

MEET TODAY

Congress leaders to brainstorm on bypoll loss, OBC tag

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TOP leaders of Congress will put on their 'thinking hats' and introspect on the loss at Sira and Rajarajeshwari Nagar Assembly bypolls, held recently, at a brainstorming session in the city on Monday.

KPCC president DK Shivakumar, Opposition leader Siddaramaiah, former Parliamentary opposition leader Malikarjun Kharge, Maharashtra in-charge H K Patil, opposition leader in council S R Patil and others will take part in the meeting at Clarks Exotica, Sadahalli Gate.

Shivakumar, who has already held several rounds of discussion with his party colleagues on the bypoll losses, is holding the meeting to get a clear idea on how to get the party back on the winning track. Shivakumar told TNIE that the party leaders will again introspect on the bypoll defeat at the meeting.

They are also expected to take up the issue of OBC tag to Lingayats that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa is proposing. While it looks like a winner for Yediyurappa, Congress leaders will deliberate on the party's line of reaction. Though many analysts and experts outside party circles have expressed concern over the OBC tag, saying it would reduce the share of the OBC pie to genuinely 'backward' classes, Congress will have to give out a weighted response, party sources said.

The leaders will also wrack their brains over the immediate challenge before the party, that is the bypolls to Maski and Basavakalyan Assembly constituencies and the Belagavi Lok Sabha seat.

The two Assembly seats were won by Congress candidates in 2018, but repeating the performance in the bypolls will not be easy. The leaders will discuss about choosing the right candidate for the Parliamentary bypolls.

The party is expected to get a feedback on the ground situation on the gram panchayat elections and the leaders will discuss strategies to strengthen the party at the grassroots.

They will also deliberate on the upcoming legislature session beginning from December 7.

One can choose his, her partner: Shivakumar on 'Love Jihad'

Udupi: On the BJP government keen on making 'Love Jihad' a punishable offence, KPCC president D K Shivakumar said here on Sunday that India is a secular and democratic country and choosing a partner is an individual decision. He asked how many children of BJP leaders have married of their own will. Asked whether factional feuds were denting the image of Congress in the state, he said that it is not true and the party is united. On JDS leader H D Kumaraswamy's statement that Shivakumar was responsible for the fall of the previous JDS-Congress coalition government, he said he will not comment as Kumaraswamy is a senior politician. "Let him speak anything, but I am happy for him," he said. **ENS**

WHAT FUTURE HOLDS

Dark clouds hover over Vidhana Soudha Bengaluru on Sunday. The Legislature session will begin from December 7 | ASHISHKRISHNA HP

HOW BJP STOPPED OBC TAG FOR LINGAYATS IN THE NICK OF TIME

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

THE BJP top central and state leadership went into a tizzy after coming to know that Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's was planning to grant the OBC tag to numerically and politically significant Lingayat community on Thursday. But they worked hard behind the scenes and pulled the strings at the very top to checkmate the chief minister.

The leaders were not aware of the decision till it was listed in the agenda of the cabinet meeting on Thursday evening. The topic, 'OBC for Lingayats', at number 27 was the last in the list. Immediately, some party members brought it to the notice of state party president Naleen Kumar Kateel, who swung into action and informed Home Minister Amit Shah, party national president J P Nadda and party national general secretary (organisation) B L Santhosh, who is from Karnataka. Then, Santhosh is said to have briefed party central leaders, including Shah and Nadda.

Vice-Chancellor of Kuvempu University Prof B P Veerabhadrappa felicitates Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa in Shivamogga on Sunday | SHIMOGA NANDAN

The state party unit had, meanwhile, spoken to four cabinet ministers and asked them to argue on technical grounds that if the OBC tag was granted to Lingayats, it would reduce the share for other communities. The ministers, whose identities were not revealed, were briefed late into the night on the number of communities in the OBC bracket, and other technical issues. They were told firmly to stick to their stand.

The alarm bells started ringing within the party, as the CM was going ahead with the crucial decision when most of the cabinet ministers were in New Delhi and the issue was not discussed at any of the party forums earlier. Some party leaders even went up to the chief minister and urged him not to do anything hasty.

Still no one was sure whether it could be defused, till the all-important phone call came from Amit Shah to Yediyurappa on the morning of Friday, the day of the cabinet meeting. It was this phone conversation that stopped the chief minister in his tracks, party sources said.

Expansion of Cabinet soon, insists BSY

ENS @Chitradurga

CHIEF Minister B S Yediyurappa on Sunday reiterated that the cabinet expansion exercise is on and will take place within the next two to three days.

Addressing media persons after the inauguration of Murughashree museum in the city, he said he will discuss the issue of expansion with the party high command and seek permission. "The party top brass will decide who will be made minister, " he said. He, however, refused to comment on whether the remaining of the 17 turncoats, who joined BJP to help form the government, will be inducted into the ministry.

Reacting to Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant's statement ruling out the possibility of an out-of-court settlement on Mahadayi river water sharing, Yediyurappa said he will hold a meeting with his Goa counterpart in Delhi to discuss the issue, but refused to speak further.

HEIR TO THE FORE: IT'S FAMILY ALL THE WAY IN KARNATAKA POLITICS

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

IN Karnataka, it is 'family politics', or a family enterprise. At a rough count, there are more than 150 members of the Assembly, Council, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha whose family members are also politicians. These include politicians who are descendants of politicians, meaning they are dynasts.

Over 40 per cent of all elected representatives — right from MPs and MLAs to members of zilla panchayats and civic bodies — belong to one political family or the other.

While the JDS may be leading, the BJP and Congress are not too far behind. In the Congress, former CM Siddaramaiah and his son Dr Yatheendra are both MLAs. While Ramalinga Reddy and his daughter Soumya, father and son Prakash and Ganesh Hukkeri and Ramesh Jarkiholi and his two brothers Satish and Balachandra are all MLAs, Mallikarjun Kharge is MP Rajya Sabha while son Priyank Kharge is an MLA.

While former CM Dharam Singh's son Ajay Singh is an MLA, his brother Vijay Singh is an MLC. KPCC president D K Shivakumar is an MLA while brother D K Suresh is an MP.

The BJP, which raises the bogey of political dynasties during poll campaigns, too has its share of dynasts. CM B S Yediyurappa's son Raghavendra is an MP while daughter Aruna is president of Veerashaiva Mahasabha Women's wing, and other son Vijayendra is vice-president of the State BJP unit.

While Dr Umesh Jadhav and son Dr Avinash Jadhav are MP and MLA, respectively, Jagadish Shettar is an MLA while his brother is an MLC. Minister Basavaraj Bommai's father was a former CM, MLAs Raghu and Arvind Limbavali are brothers-in-law, Umesh Katti is an MLA while brother Ramesh Katti is former MP, C M Udasi is an MLA while son Shivakumar Udasi is an MP, and Ravi Subramanya is Basavanagudi MLA while nephew Tejasvi Surya is Bangalore South MP.

Former CM HD Kumaraswamy with his son Nikhil and wife Anita

There are examples where politics is thicker than blood. Former CM Bangarappa's warring sons Kumar Bangarappa is a BJP MLA while Madhuchandra of JDS is a former MLA.

The Reddy troika — Somashekar, Karunakar and Janardhan— and B Sreeramulu and his family including sister J Shanta and uncle Sanna Fakeerappa are other examples.

In the JDS, the third generation has made a political debut. JDS patriarch H D Deve Gowda is Rajya Sabha MP and grandson Prajwal Revanna is Lok Sabha MP. Gowda's sons H D Kumaraswamy and H D Revanna and daughter-in-law Anita Kumaraswamy are MLAs, Revanna's father-in-law D C Thammanna is an MLA, while his wife Bhavani is a ZP level politician.

There are brothers like Jarkiholis or spouses like the Jolles. Some may make an entry because the party has chosen them because of the sympathy factor. In the recent Sira bypolls, JDS had fielded Ammajamma, wife of late MLA B Sathyanarayana.

Belonging to a political family gives candidates better access to allies and resources, say political analysts. "For successful bandwidth, one needs family name, visibility and the role of family also becomes important. While family names do give a head start, can it sustain them in the long run is a moot question. It would be unfair to name only political dynasties. This is linked to a larger reality in India where this trend is seen in businesses and other fields too. In politics, it is more visible," said Prof Sandeep Shastri, pro VC, Jain (deemed-to-be) University.

"It is an unhealthy development in a democracy and should be discouraged," said political analyst B S Murthy.

A car rental company owner in Whitefield filed a police complaint alleging that three people rented eight cars worth Rs 65 lakh posing as clients and sold them in Tamil Nadu

POLL FEVER

Will win GHMC, then come to power in TS: Shah

Vows to rid city of encroachments, stop flooding once BJP is in power

Union Home Minister Amit Shah visits the Charminar Bhagya Lakshmi Mandir during the GHMC election campaign in Hyderabad on Sunday | VINAY MADAPU

V NILESH @Hyderabad

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday exuded confidence that the BJP would not only capture Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and the position of Mayor but also win the 2013 Assembly elections.

Speaking to the media here, he said: "This time, the BJP is not contesting election to just increase its vote share or to strengthen the party's base but for logging in an outright victory in both GHMC and the next Assembly elections."

He said that Hyderabad could become a global IT hub if right infrastructure is developed and the Central schemes for urban development are implemented properly by the GHMC. While blaming the TRS and AIMIM for the poor functioning of GHMC, he promised that when the BJP comes to power in the corporation, it will ensure that Hyderabad would attain the status of a global IT hub.

Referring to the recent floods in Hyderabad, Shah blamed the AIMIM for encouraging encroachment of storm water drains and water bodies in the city and accused the TRS government of not taking up desiltation of stormwater drains since six months, resulting in flooding.

Shah promised that all encroachments will be removed once BJP Mayor comes to power.

Pointing out that the area in front of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao's house also was flooded during the recent rains, he wanted to know why Rao or AIMIM chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi were not seen among people during the floods.

On the accusation that the Central government did not provide financial assistance to the flood-hit Hyderabad, Shah took a potshot at the Chief Minister saying, "as he does not go to the Secretariat, it is natural that he does not know that the Centre had released around ₹500 crore under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) to Telangana to deal with Hyderabad floods.

'CAN'T REDUCE INDIA TO A HINDUTVA VERSION OF PAK'

The partition is often looked at as one of the painful bits of Indian history. While August 14, 1947, marked the formation of Pakistan, a Muslim nation, India remained secular and accepted all religions and faiths equally. Emphasising this and the basic nature of the Indian Constitution, Congress MP and former Union Minister Shashi Tharoor said, "We're a country for everybody and we won't reduce India to a Hindutva version of Pakistan." He was in conversation with The New Indian Express' Editorial Director Prabhu Chawla and Author and Senior Journalist Kaveree Bamzai at a session of the ninth edition of the Odisha Literary Festival 2020 which is being held virtually.

"Any government can undo the doings of the previous government," said Tharoor, reminding us of how the Narasimha Rao government in the 1990s altered the economic policies of the Nehru government. "However, no government can undo the basic logic of the Indian Constitution which says that ours is a country for everybody," he said.

Elaborating on the concept of civic nationalism that he had widely written about in his new book The Battle of Belonging: On Nationalism, Patriotism And What It Means To Be Indian, he said that there are broadly two types of nationalism. "In the book, I describe the theory, concept and evolution of nationalism around the world. There is a nationalism linked to your identity and the nationalism of institutions and constitutions. The latter is civic nationalism," he said. "This is what I mean by 'good' nationalism. While 'good nationalism' and 'patriotism' have a lot in common, there are still differences between the two – what we understand by "good nationalism" is really civic nationalism with liberal democracy stirred in, whereas patriotism is largely a positive emotional and sentimental love of homeland," he wrote in the book.

He added that the practicing of civic nationalism is what facilitates one's migration to the US without being white or Christian. "In India, the Hindutva is essentially assaulting the civic nationalism enshrined in our Constitution and nationalism," he said. He also said that this was what the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register for Citizens were questioning. He also said that patriotism is nothing but love for one's country. "It is like the love for one's mother," he said.

e-expressions ODISHA LITERARY FESTIVAL LIVE

Tharoor, who says that civic nationalism is a very liberal ideology, contrasted it with Hindutva. He added that the Indian Constitution allows one to have various identities, without disrespecting the state and its symbols. "I have no problem saying Bharat Mata ki Jai. However, I respect a fellow Muslim whose religion does not allow him to visualise his country as a goddess. He has the right to remain silent. But the Hindutva leaders won't let him be silent," added Tharoor, who believes that there is an ongoing battle on the part of the ruling party to move India from a civic nationalistic country to a Hindu Rashtra.

One lakh applicants for 4K seats

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ABOUT 4,000 seats are allowed every year during admission. In 2013, when all these six universities were included under the Karnataka Examinations Authority, the number of applicants increased from an average 25,000 to 35,000. The number has been increasing every year and this year, close to one lakh students applied for the 4,000 seats available.

"To meet this demand, either the government has to increase seat intake in its colleges, start new colleges or allow private players. Since the government does not have sufficient funds to provide infrastructure and human resources, private players can help," said a senior official from the Department of Agriculture who didn't wish to be named.

Agriculture Minister B C Patil told *TNIE* that there had always been demand for agriculture courses in Karnataka. "In Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and other states, governments are allowing private players to run colleges with agriculture courses. They have one university and all these private colleges are affiliated to them. We also have similar plans," he said, adding that even in urban areas, youngsters are showing interest in agriculture.

In 2009, the State government had passed the Universities of Agricultural Sciences Bill that allowed private affiliated colleges. But nothing much was done till 2017. In 2017, the government called private colleges to apply for affiliation and six institutes applied, of which three were eligible. One of the criteria was to have 75 acres of farm land as per the Technical Committee recommendations. But for various reasons it did not take off.

Speaking to TNIE, A B Patil, former Registrar, UAS (Bengaluru), said, "Now that the land reforms will also help people to buy land and with many youngsters interested in agriculture and moving back to villages, there will be many agripreneurs and agriculture may become an industry."

CRIME PATROL

Man kills co-worker for refusing to have sex with him

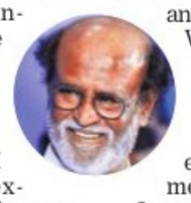
Bengaluru: Madanayakanahalli police arrested a 35-year-old man for allegedly murdering his co-worker for refusing to have sex with him. The accused, Sunil Yadav Pandey, allegedly murdered Sikandar Yadav (40). They were from Bihar and were working at JK Steels, a steel scrapyard, near Kadabagere Gate. Police said that Sikandar was found in an unconscious state in the JK Steels office on October 30. Investigations revealed that he had a drink with someone the previous night when he was assaulted with a blunt object. He succumbed to his injuries in a hospital on October 31. "Sunil was arrested in Tirupati on Saturday. When interrogated, he confessed that both of them were drunk that night and he asked Sikandar to have sex with him. When Sikandar refused, Sunil attacked him with beer bottles and fled," the police said. **ENS**

POLITICAL PLUNGE?

Rajinikanth's fans pin hopes on today's meeting

S KUMARESAN @Chennai

IN what could turn out to be his first official announcement, filmstar Rajnikanth is likely to put a closure to all speculation about his political plunge on Monday during a meeting with senior functionaries of the Rajini Makkal Mandram (RMM), the political incarnation of his erstwhile fan club.



Highly placed sources in the RMM said the actor is expected to address his supporters at the Raghavendra marriage hall, owned by him at Kodambakkam, via video conference from his Poes Garden residence. Around 35 senior functionaries of the fan club, mostly district secretaries, have been invited.

Though a section of his fan club members is hopeful of him joining politics, TNIE has learnt that Rajnikanth is likely to convey to them that he will not be able to join politics due to genuine health reasons. The actor, who will turn 70 next month, has been advised by doctors against embarking on any hectic political activity, saying his present health condition does not permit any rigorous schedule.

What is, however, not clear is whether Rajnikanth will actually make a final announcement at the end of Monday's meeting.

In any case, the intent behind this meeting is that the expectations will wane, thereby reducing the pressure on him.

This meeting may be the actor's way of mentally preparing his supporters to not get disappointed. There has been hope as well as anxiety among the actor's fans, with a few ardent fans believing that he might lead them in the 2021 poll battle.

Provocative graffiti found in M'luru again

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mangaluru

Close on the heels of the incident where graffiti in support of the Lashkar-E-Taiba and Taliban was found on a wall in Kadri, more provocative graffiti was found on another wall near the district court premises in Mangaluru on Sunday. The graffiti, which was in Urdu, read, *"Gustak-e-rasool ki ek hi saza, sar tan say juda* (the punishment for offending the Prophet is to be beheaded).

Mangaluru police commissioner Vikash Kumar said in a press release that they have sought help from the public to nab the miscreants. A case has been registered at Pandeshwar police station. He asked people to report to the nearest police station, call 9480802304, 9480802305 or 0824-2220800 in case they come across anything suspicious.

KANNUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LTD.

E-tenders are invited by the Managing Director for below works

Sl No	Tender Id	Name of Work	Bid Closing Date
1	2020_KIAL_399759_1	O&M of Aerodrome Ground Lighting installations	05.12.2020
2	2020_KIAL_400076_2	O&M of AGL Substations and other E&M installations	14.12.2020
3	2020_KIAL_400115_1	O&M of 33KV Substation & allied works	14.12.2020

For full details of the tenders please visit **https://etenders.kerala.gov.in/**
All future addendums/corrigendum etc. will be published in this website only

Sd/- Managing Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client Sri. T.N. Mahesh S/o H.N. Nagaraj is the absolute owner of the house property 1634, No. 22, 7th Cross, 2nd Block, BSK 1st Stage, BBMP Ward No. 53, Bangalore-50, consisting of 3 floors, consisting of both residential and commercial portions. He is residing in it with his family. The site was allotted and put in possession of my client's father Sri. H.N Nagaraj under possession certificate No. 1336/72-73 and the super structure build by my client's father. A sale deed dated 22.12.1997 and registered on 23.12.1997 as document No. 3146/97-98 in Book I, volume 2086 at pages 238-240 on the records of Sub-Registrar, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004. Since then the property is absolutely owned by my client's father and now by my client and is in their possession. The above stated original possession certificate and the original sale deed have been lost in transit and complaint is also preferred with the Basavanagudi P.S in this regard.

The public are hereby cautioned that possession of the said document by any person will be deemed un-authorised and such person is requested to return the same to my client or police station. These documents have never been voluntarily parted with by my client or his father, nor has been offered as security to repay any loan, to anybody or institution. Public is hereby cautioned against entering into any transaction with any one on the strength of those documents, as will be viewed as criminal interference with the rights of my client, and my client will not be bounded by such transactions.

A V. Srinivas, Advocate
No. 107, Upstairs, Gandhi Bazaar, B-4.

ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
Oil India Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)

P.O. Duliajan - 786602, Assam, India. CIN: L11101AS1959GOI001148

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

Oil India Limited (OIL) is a premier Navratna Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Govt. of India. It is engaged in the business of Exploration, Production and Transportation of Crude oil & Natural gas and Production of LPG. A fully integrated upstream company, OIL has widespread operations in India and overseas and is also engaged in the generation of renewable energy. The Company has its Field Head Quarters in Duliajan, Assam and its Corporate Office is located at Noida, UP.

The company intends to hire the services of competent insurance broker / brokers for F/Ys 2021-22 & 2022-23 to manage the risk affecting the properties and operations of the Company.

The interested bidders are requested to visit the official website of OIL at WWW.OIL-INDIA.COM to download the EOI free of cost for the purpose of their biding. The EOI along with all supporting documents / credentials / certificates etc. must reach the **GM (F&A –Accounts), Oil India Limited, P.O. Duliajan- 786 602, Assam, India** in a sealed cover on or before **1:00 PM on 15-12-2020**.

Repco Home Finance

REPCO HOME FINANCE LIMITED
109, First Floor, A - Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

TENDER - CUM - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Sale of Immovable Properties Mortgaged to Repco Home Finance Ltd. Under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Whereas **Borrower: Mr. K. Nagaraj Reddy,** S/o. K. Raja Reddy, **Co-Borrower: Mrs. K. Shridevi,** W/o, K. Nagaraj Reddy, have borrowed money from Repco Home Finance Limited, **Basaveshwara Nagar (Now the account transferred to ARB Banglore)** Branch against the mortgage of the immovable property more fully described in the schedule hereunder, the company has issued a Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 on **08-05-2018** calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being vide **Loan Account No. 2581890000357** being **Rs.32,01,754/-** on **08-05-2018** together with further interest, costs and expenses within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

Whereas the borrower & co-borrowers having failed to pay the amount due to the Company as called for in the said demand notice, the Company has taken possession of the secured asset more fully described in the schedule hereunder on **03-12-2018** under Section 13 (4) of the Act.

Whereas the borrowers having failed to pay the dues in full, the secured creditor, Repco Home Finance Limited has decided to sell the under mentioned secured asset in **"As is where is condition"** and **"As is what is condition"** under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for realization of the debts dues to the company. The dues of the borrower being vide **Loan Account No. 2581890000357** being **Rs.47,39,061/-** as on **20-11-2020.**

DETAILS OF SALE

Date and Time of E-Auction	**15-12-2020, 11.00 A.M -12.00 P.M** (with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes)
EMD (10% of Reserve Price)	**Rs.4,53,600/-** (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand and Six Hundred Only)
Reserve Price	**Rs.45,36,000/-** (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs and Thirty Six Thousand Only)
Last Date & time for submitting E -Tenders	**14-12-2020,** 04.00 P.M
Minimum Bid Increment Amount	**Rs.10,000/-**

Description of Property:

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Southern Portion of Site No. 9, formed in the Land Asst. No. 36/3, khatha No. 136, situated at Doddabidarakallu Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk, now within the limits of BBMP Bengaluru measuring East to West 60 Feet, North to South 30 Feet totally measuring 1800 Sq.ft., Bounded on:-

East by: Road, **West by:** Site No. 8, **North by:** Remaining 10 Feet of Site No. 09,
South by: Site No. 04 & 05.

Terms and Conditions

The intending bidders of the property should send their bids in the prescribed tender form in a closed cover along with EMD of 10% of the reserve price by means of RTGS / NEFT / DD / Banker's Cheque drawn in favour of **"Repco Home Finance Limited"** payable at **Bengaluru** or on the website **WWW.Bankeauctions.com.** Tender form not in the prescribed format will not be accepted.

For inspection of the property the intending bidders may contact the Branch Head, Repco Home Finance Limited, **Bengaluru** Branch, on all working days between 10 A.M to 5 P.M. **Contact Nos. (080) 41233109, 99867 72220.**

Place: **Bengaluru**
Date: **20-11-2020**

Authorised officer
Repco Home Finance Limited

Repco Home Finance

REPCO HOME FINANCE LIMITED
109, First Floor, A - Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

TENDER - CUM - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Sale of Immovable Properties Mortgaged to Repco Home Finance Ltd. Under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Whereas **Borrower: Mr. B. Raghavendra,** S/o, C. Basavaraju, **Co-Borrower-I: Mr. C. Basavaraju,** S/o, Channe Gowda, **Co-Borrower-II: Mrs. M.N. Shobha,** W/o, B. Raghavendra have borrowed money from Repco Home Finance Limited, **Banashankari Branch (now the account transferred to ARB Bangalore)** against the mortgage of the immovable property more fully described in the schedule hereunder, the company has issued a **Demand Notice** under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 on **08-11-2018** calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being vide **Loan Account Nos. 2581890000065** being **Rs.44,29,985/-** as on **08-11-2018** together with further interest, costs and expenses within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

Whereas the borrower & co-borrowers having failed to pay the amount due to the Company as called for in the said demand notice, the Company has taken possession of the secured asset more fully described in the schedule hereunder on **23-04-2019** under Section 13 (4) of the Act.

Whereas the borrowers having failed to pay the dues in full, the secured creditor, Repco Home Finance Limited has decided to sell the under mentioned secured asset in **"As is where is condition"** and **"As is what is condition"** under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for realization of the debts dues to the company. The dues of the borrower being vide **Loan Account Nos. 2581890000065** being **Rs.61,09,669/-** as on **20-11-2020.**

DETAILS OF SALE

Date and Time of E-Auction	**15-12-2020, 11.00 A.M -12.00 P.M** (with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes)
EMD (10% of Reserve Price)	**Rs.7,56,000/-** (Rupees Seven Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Only)
Reserve Price	**Rs.75,60,000/-** (Rupees Seventy Five Lakhs Sixty Thousand Only)
Last Date & time for submitting E -Tenders	**14-12-2020,** 04.00 P.M
Minimum Bid Increment Amount	**Rs.25,000/-**

Description of Property:

All that piece and parcel of property Site No. 1, Khatha No. 12/1/1, Property No. 12/1, situated at Bileshivale Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, now within the limits of BBMP, Measuring East to West : 70 ft., North to South : 40 ft., and bounded on:-

East by: Property belongs to Channakeshava **West by:** 20 ft. Road **North by:** Site No. 2
South by: Property belonging to Munirathna

Terms and Conditions

The intending bidders of the property should send their bids in the prescribed tender form in a closed cover along with EMD of 10% of the reserve price by means of RTGS / NEFT / DD / Banker's Cheque drawn in favour of **"Repco Home Finance Limited"** payable at **Bengaluru** or on the website **WWW.Bankeauctions.com.** Tender form not in the prescribed format will not be accepted.

For inspection of the property the intending bidders may contact the Branch Head, Repco Home Finance Limited, **Bengaluru** Branch, on all working days between 10 A.M to 5 P.M. **Contact Nos. (080) 41233109, 99867 72220.**

Place: **Bengaluru**
Date: **20-11-2020**

Authorised officer
Repco Home Finance Limited

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government Of India Undertaking)

Rajajinagar 2nd Stage Branch, No. J-652, 1st Floor, Near Navaranga Theater, Dr. Raj Kumar Road, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010,Phone no. 080-23329494;Mobile No:9449860392 ; e-Mail –cb10436@canaranbank.com

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physicalpossession of which has been taken by the **Authorised Officer of Rajajinagar 2nd Stage of Canara Bank (Earlier Syndicate Bank).**, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on 30.12.2020,** for recovery of **Rs.60,54,431** (Rupees Sixty Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty One Only) due to the **Rajajinagar 2nd Stage of Canara Bank (Earlier Syndicate Bank) from 1.Sri Ganesh Gopalan** at No 6, Sathya Krupa, 3 rd Block,Gurumurthy Reddy Layout,Ramamurthy Nagar, Bengaluru-560016.

The Reserve price, Earnest Money Deposits, Auction date, last date of submission of Bid details are as under. The Earnest Money shall be deposited by way of DD favouring **Authorised Officer, Canara Bank (Earlier Syndicate Bank), Rajajinagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore** OR through online (RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer – **IFSC CODE SYNB0000436**) to the credit of the account number **04363130000028, Canara Bank (Earlier Syndicate Bank), Rajajinagar 2 nd Stage Branch, Bangalore on or before 28.12.2020.**

Description of the immovable Assets	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Incremental value at Bid
All that piece and parcel of residential Flat No. Type A, Ground Floor of the building Apartment called "RANCHOS" with super built area of 1800 Sq ft and 745 Sq ft of undivided share, property bearing Site.No.75, Khata No.106/75 at N S Info- City formed in converted land bearing survey No.58/3 (Old No.58) of Arehalli Guddadahalli, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura, Bengaluru Rural District. Measuring East to West (68+60)/2 ft and North to South (88+52)/2 ft in total 4480 Sq ft. Bounded By:East by: Layout Road,West by:Plot No.68,North by:Plot No.44,South by: Layout Road	**Rs.45,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Only)**	**Rs 4,50,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only)**	**Rs.50,000/- (Rupee Fifty Thousand only**

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or may contact **Chief Manager, Rajajinagar 2nd Stage, CanaraBank (Earlier Syndicate Bank), 080-23329494 Mobile Number :9449860392** during office hours on any working day.

Date : 30.11.2020
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised officer
Canara Bank

EDITORIAL

You can't offer happiness until you have it for yourself. So build a home inside by accepting yourself and learning to love and heal yourself

Thich Nhat Hanh

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

BID TO SABOTAGE BIDEN PLAN TO EXPLORE IRAN N-TALKS

The recent assassination of Iran's tallest nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh appears to be aimed at sabotaging US President-elect Joe Biden's plan to explore rapproachment with the country that is racing to develop a rogue N-bomb. The shadowy 'father' of his country's nuclear bomb programme was already a marked man as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had disclosed his identity two years ago and famously said, "Remember that name." While Biden is saying his administration would try to walk Iran back to the bilateral nuclear peace accord signed by Obama from which President Donald Trump reneged in 2018, Israel is decidedly against the letter and spirit of the 2015 pact. US media reports suggest Trump was looking at options to bomb Iran's nuclear facilities before bowing out of office but was talked out of it. Anyway, some action was widely expected before Biden assumed office on January 20, given the recent hectic diplomacy between Washington, Tel Aviv and Riyadh.

While Tehran is already pointing fingers at Israel's spy agency Mossad for the assassination and calling for definitive punishment, the latter has remained silent so far, as has the incoming and outgoing US administration. In what was a military-style attack, Fakhrizadeh's sedan was sprayed with bullets after a truck it was passing by blew up. His was the second high-profile elimination this year after that of Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps General Qasem Soleimani in a dramatic drone strike earlier, for which Trump claimed credit. The hit job is the latest in a series of attempts to delay and degrade Iran's ability to build the bomb by taking out scientists and targeting installations through various means, both conventional and otherwise.

The attack also comes amid path-breaking restoration of diplomatic relations between Israel and Arab nations like the UAE and Bahrain. Part of Trump's legacy, these bonds could be under test after Democrat Biden gets into the saddle, as the human rights card would get better play than now. Saudi Arabia seems to have put off repairing formal ties with Israel till Biden takes charge, hoping to use it as leverage against the anticipated human rights pitch. In sum, West Asian diplomacy is in for a churn as it awaits reset. Will peace get a chance?

NEED MORE THAN LAWS TO ERADICATE GRAFT

One more survey and one more unwelcome feather is in the country's cap. The corruption watchdog, Transparency International, in its recent report, concluded that India has the highest bribery rate in Asia and also the most number of people who use personal connections to access public services. We need not debate its findings since we all know it is not off the mark. Just in case anyone has any doubts, one could simply check how difficult it is to avail public services without greasing the palms of public servants or the ubiquitous touts at government offices.

A majority of us have learnt to live with this, considering it as a part of life, in fact, a way of life. Public outbursts or even movements against corruption do occur from time to time but they mostly end with an abstract victory or a renewed hope that in due course is usually dashed. Serious thought must be given to address this plague that is affecting every citizen. The solution offered by political parties is to enact laws. We, perhaps, have more laws than any other country but that hasn't improved the lot of the common man one bit. The Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 2018, ostensibly takes the bull by the horns. With its fine bureaucratic balance, it looks good on paper, progressive even, by seeking to deter bribe-givers, shielding public servants from being unfairly targeted, and expediting cases. It is now a good time to revisit the law to assess its effectiveness since prima facie, it appears to have not fulfilled its purpose if one were to take ground reality as the yardstick.

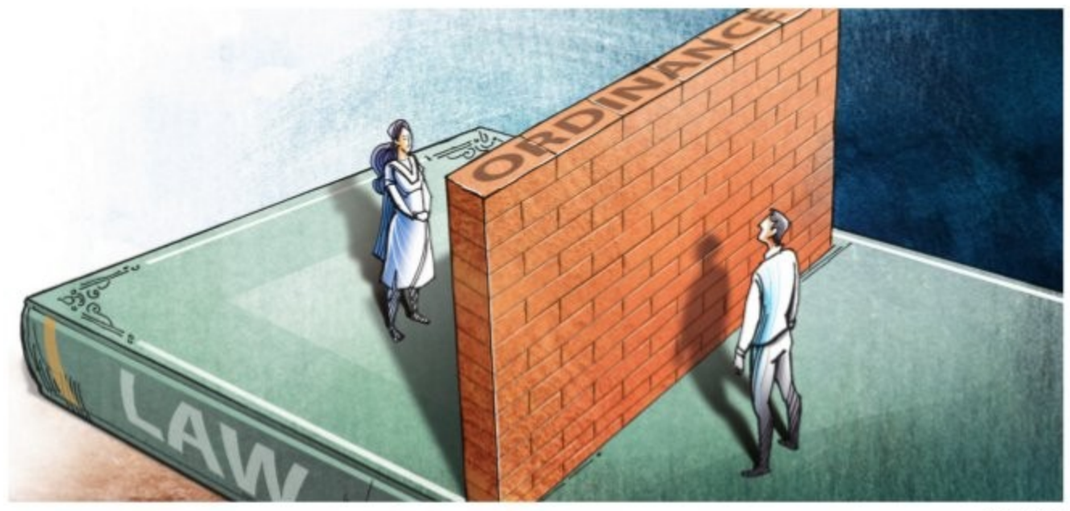
No law can, however, eradicate corruption. The only way seems to be the use of technology to ensure transparency, and strengthening of independent institutions so that people can approach them without fear of reprisals. In the long run, there has to be a moral shift in public consciousness for which we need men and women of character. The need of the hour is man-making education, not just in schools and colleges but in every family.

The Ordinance also goes against the right to privacy. The state has no role to play in the personal choice of individuals in consummating a union and embracing their partner's religion

U.P. LAW ON LOVE JIHAD SEEKS TO DIVIDE COMMUNITIES

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer, Congress leader and member of Rajya Sabha



TAPAS RANJAN

When laws are motivated by communally divisive agendas, they breed suspicion within communities, resulting in a sense of alienation. That in turn negatively impacts societal peace and harmony. Occasionally, it leads to sporadic violence. When such laws attempt to interfere with personal relationships or emotive issues of choice, which are at the heart of individual freedoms, the outcomes are even more disturbing. That explains why matters relating to marriage, divorce, succession and inheritance polarise dialogues and attitudes. Such agendas germinate a majoritarian culture pitting "us" against "them" and give birth to electoral majorities. The road to power then becomes a relatively easy enterprise. The rise of right-wing assertions, a global phenomenon, is based on such engineered societal divides.

The Uttar Pradesh government's recent promulgation of the UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Ordinance, 2020, relating to "Love Jihad" is yet another attempt, in a string of communally charged initiatives, aimed at reaping electoral dividends. Love jihad is a concept the contours of which are blurred. However, in simple terms, all that it means is that if a Muslim boy, in love with a non-Muslim girl chooses to marry her and she embraces Islam, such a union will be looked upon with suspicion by the law and is liable to be declared void. This strikes at the root of individual liberty since such a union cannot be held to be legally suspect. It strikes at the core of the 'right to privacy', which is protected constitutionally.

The Ordinance also targets mass conversions, which have taken place in the past. These include conversions to Christianity in the 1930s, to Buddhism by Dalits in the 1950s and Mizo Christians to the Jewish faith in the 2000s. Those seeking to convert allure marginalised castes and tribes with hope, dignity and material enticement. Dr Ambedkar, disenchanted with the caste structure of Hinduism, converted to Buddhism. The reasons for such mass conversions are complex and need to be addressed separately. Under the proposed law, those guilty of mass conversions are liable to face a jail term extending up to 10 years and a minimum fine of ₹50,000.

While it is justifiable to prevent conversion based on force, coercion, undue influence, misrepresentation and allurements, it is difficult to prove these elements if a Muslim boy and a non-Muslim girl or vice-versa exercise their free will to marry for reasons that are entirely personal. The reason why non-Muslims convert to Islam is because the children born in wedlock would otherwise be excluded from inheritance under Muslim law. Absent this conversion, the union of a Muslim with a non-Muslim or vice-versa will be a difficult proposition. That is why the intent of the proposed law is suspect as it seeks to target conversion and not marriage. The Ordinance provides that in an inter-faith marriage, if one of the partners wishes to embrace another religion, that person will have to inform the District Magistrate or the Additional District Magistrate in writing at least two months in advance. A format of the application seeking permission for conversion will be provided by the government. Under the proposed law, it would be the responsibility of the person embracing another religion to prove that such person was not converted forcibly or through fraudulent means. Those who abet, convince or conspire are also liable to be prosecuted. Any such violation of the law would entail a jail term of six months to three years and a minimum fine of ₹10,000.

Marriage between two people is personal to them. It allows either of them to opt out of the marriage. In addition, the person victimised is free to allege use of force, coercion, fraud, undue influence or misrepresentation against the other. In the absence of any of these, it is unthinkable that the law mandates a person who voluntarily embraces another religion to seek permission to prove that the decision was not actuated by any of those elements. Reversal of the burden of proof in matters of personal choices of a life partner may be legally unsustainable. The obligation to seek permission for conversion two months in advance is fundamentally arbitrary and a violation of the 'right to privacy'. The state has no role to play in the personal choice of individuals in consummating a union and embracing the religion of the partner. The state can certainly regulate acts of forced conversion but the starting point of such regulation has to be a complaint made by the individual who opts to convert. In most of these cases, it is the parents who complain that their daughter has been fraudulently enticed into a relationship and is a victim of forced conversion. The Ordinance allows members of the family of those who convert or any relative to lodge an FIR. This makes the Ordinance an instrument of harassment in situations where inter-faith marriages are voluntary.

> The state can certainly regulate acts of forced conversion but the starting point of such regulation has to be a complaint made by the individual who opts to convert. In most of these cases, it is the parents who lodge the complaint

We have seen this being played out in Hadiya's case in Kerala. The couple went through trauma when Hadiya's husband and some organisations were targeted for allegedly having induced her to convert to Islam. This was despite the fact that she constantly denied the allegations, asserting that she had embraced Islam voluntarily and much before she had met her husband. The drama was then played out in court after the Kerala High Court held the marriage to be void on grounds that there was no reasonable explanation given by Hadiya for her marriage to a Muslim without the consent of her parents. Finally, while appearing personally in the Supreme Court, she unequivocally stated that she had married her husband of her own free will and converted to another religion much before her marriage. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was asked to investigate the circumstances in which Hadiya had married and converted. The NIA decided to widen its investigations. From a list of 89 such marriages, it investigated 11 cases and in the absence of prosecutable evidence, all such matters resulted in closure.

The bottom line is that the Ordinance serves a political purpose. It is yet another way to polarise our polity. The issue is emotive and seeks to divide communities. The constitutionality of such a legislation when challenged should be decided with utmost speed. The court, hopefully, will find such laws to be antithetical to the constitutional ethos and our civilisational values. Any attempt to delay adjudication would only be playing into the hands of those intending to divide and not unite India.

(Tweets @KapilSibal)

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE—AN ILLUSION?

SAJAY SAMUEL

Professor at State College, Pennsylvania

In refusing to admit he lost the election to Joe Biden, Donald Trump weakens the legitimacy of the US Presidency.

To fully grasp the significance of Trump's 'I CONCEDE NOTHING' requires understanding the structure of a constitutional republic. In late 1786, Samuel Lyman, who was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, wrote a letter to a fellow federalist, Samuel Breck. His words are instructive of the problem that a constitution for the United States was expected to solve. "[N]ot only this Commonwealth but the union at large are in the most confused and confounded condition; we do not yet feel that sameness or unity of interest which is the only cement of any nation..." The federalist solution to perceived disunity in the nation is to establish a strong central authority that embodies The American People. This solution is captured in the first line of the preamble to the constitution of a United States created one year later: "We the people of the United States in order to form a more perfect Union..."

A century earlier, in 1655, Thomas Hobbes's *Leviathan* offered the first theoretical support for constituted political orders. In the conventional version of that argument, the people, naturally desirous of power, are led to struggle against each other, which exposes them all to "the continual fear and danger of violent death". To avoid this "war of all men against all men", the people bind themselves by mutual covenant to confer upon an "artificial man", the task of peacemaker. For Hobbes, this Leviathan—whom he also called the 'Common-Wealth or the State'—is a colossus so large as to loom over a mountain range, at the near edge of which is a city. Only a strong state can compel peace, without which the people will remain in a state of civil war.

In his slim book *Stasis* (which is Greek for civil war), Giorgio Agamben presents an astonishingly unconventional reading of the frontispiece of Leviathan (*in picture*). As befits a philosopher of the highest rank, he plumbs the depths of Hobbes by staying on the surface. Why, in the frontispiece, does Leviathan not occupy the city but hover outside it? Why is the city empty of people? Why do armed guards and beaked figures depicting doctors of the plague appear in the city? There is much more in Agamben's dense reading of the frontispiece. But his answers to these three questions is perhaps sufficient to illuminate the fuller meaning of Trump's refusal to concede.

Against convention, Agamben shows that Hobbes was fully aware of the spectral nature of 'The People'. Hobbes distinguishes 'The People' from 'the multitude'. The People is the substance of the 'body politic' and is represented by the state. In contrast, the multitude are the natural bodies, the citizens—you and me. The multitude exist in two conditions: either as 'disunited multitude' referring to citizens in the condition of strife, or as 'dissolved multitude' referring to citizens in a pacified state. The constitution of the state/Leviathan marks the passage from the disunited to the dissolved multitude. Leviathan is formed of tiny bodies because the state cannot be distinguished from The People. It is precisely this transmogrification of the many into the One that is meant by the motto on the Great Seal of the US—*E Pluribus Unum*. After the state is constituted, this one People decompose back into a pacified multitude.

For Hobbes then, The People is not the citizens but a sort of optical illusion conjured up to justify sovereign power. This is why Leviathan/The People does not inhabit the city but oversees it from afar. In contrast, the citizens/multitude inhabit the city as subjects of the state. The presence of armed guards and doctors of the plague in the city depict how citizens are governed. According to Hobbes, the supreme business of the state is the safety of the multitude. The police and the physician appear as the favoured deputies of the state because safety is understood as both the preservation of life and the management of health.

The import of Trump's refusal to concede now comes into fuller view. The office of the President is understood to uniquely represent The American People. The President is the legal head of state which, by definition, embodies the nation to its citizens and to the rest of the world. Trump never pretended to represent all Americans. From his early support of the mendacious 'birther movement' to his more recent incitement of the insignificant Proud Boys to 'stand by', Trump has been a partisan through and through. By his unprecedented refusal to concede, ostensibly on behalf of some 70 million supporters, Trump has fully exposed The American People as a phantom.

In contrast, Biden resurrects The People in order to save the Republic. Biden says he does not recognise blue states and red states but only the United States. Moreover, to control the pandemic and to heal the ruptures among warring factions, Biden brings back the two guardians of the Hobbesian State: the physician and the policeman.

Trump's corrosive factionalism and Biden's illusory inclusiveness are as horns of a dilemma. Perhaps one way to avoid being gored by the one or the other is to figure out the difference between self-governing citizens and a multitude managed by The People.

(Email: sxs26@psu.edu)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Tharoor & true nationalism

This is with reference to *Tharoor-style non-stop stimulation* (Nov 29). Shashi Tharoor is a unique writer with style and substance. He has a distinct way of narration. His exposition of true nationalism is the topic of the season.

Thomas Matthew, Muvattupuzha

A stimulating thinker

Tharoor is an erudite thinker not only about Indian politics, but the world as well. He is an outstanding member of Parliament among Congress MPs from Kerala. He has also authored several books and is a stimulating thinker.

Raphael Emmanuel, Kochi

Blinkered lens

It is quite true that Tharoor is a great thinker. But it doesn't imply that what he states is the truth. A true thinker fails to be transparent when he overlooks his party's authoritarian principles and looks at a man trying his utmost for the nation through coloured lens.

Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

Gaping hole in Congress

This is with reference to *No RSVP for the Gandhis now* (Nov 29). The demise of Congress leader Ahmed Patel has left a gaping hole in the party. This comes at a time when it is facing an existential crisis.

C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Need new blood at helm

It is painful to see the Congress drifting into oblivion. With the resourceful Ahmed Patel dead and Rahul not showing signs of maturity, the situation is heading towards disaster. Sonia Gandhi must ensure there is new blood at the helm to resuscitate the party.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

Tough to unite oppn now

The author's opinion that ideologies are tradable products in new-age politics is realistic. The GOP will find it tough to materialise opposition unity to fight against Modi in Patel's absence.

M Haneef, Kottayam

High command culture

The high command culture seems to have creeped into the BJP as well. Chief ministers of BJP-ruled states do not have the freedom to take decisions unless the party high command approves it and Karnataka is a glaring example, with the CM being unable to reshuffle his Cabinet.

S Ravindranath, Bengaluru

An inspiration and icon

The passing away of football legend Diego Maradona brings to end one of the most celebrated chapters in the sport's history. He shall always remain an inspiration and icon.

Biju C Mathew, Thiruvananthapuram

PM's trips reassuring

PM Narendra Modi's whirlwind trips to review the Covid vaccine development and manufacturing centres was truly reassuring. The Centre seems serious in making the vaccine available to the public as soon as possible.

K R Parvathy, Mysuru

Guiding principle for future

The Supreme Court judgment that abetment to suicide is not established prima facie in Arnab Goswami's FIR is indeed a turning point in the controversial dispute. This judgment can be a guiding principle for such cases in the future.

Cicily Thomas, Muvattupuzha

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **G S Vasu**

Resident Editor (Karnataka) : **Santwana Bhattacharya*** Published by **R K Jhunjhunwala** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 56, No. 284 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893, Fax: 080-22866617. * Responsible for selection of News under the PRB Act. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

TWEETS OF THE DAY

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
Raising your voice against injustice is not a crime, it's a duty. Modi govt cannot change the strong intentions of farmers with the help of fake FIRs

Mayawati @Mayawati
The farmers are agitating over the new farm laws. If the Central Government reconsiders these laws, made without the consent of the farmers, it is better

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh
If, according to BJP, farmers are terrorists, then its workers should swear not to eat the food grown by them?

Farmers protest at Singhu border during their 'Delhi Chalo' march against new farm laws in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Farm laws opening new opportunities, says PM

Congress accuses Modi govt of being 'drunk on power'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

AMID the ongoing farmers' protests, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday hailed the Centre's new farm laws and the opportunities they have brought. The PM asserted that Parliament gave a legal form to the agricultural reforms after a lot of deliberation and these reforms have not only served to unshackle farmers but also given them new rights and opportunities.

The PM was addressing the nation in his monthly 'Mann ki Baat' radio programme.

"The agricultural reforms in the past few days have also now opened new doors of possibilities for our farmers. The demands that have been made by farmers for years, that every political party, at some point or the other made the promise to fulfill, those demands have been met," said Modi.

Modi stressed that in just a short span of time, these new rights have begun to ameliorate the woes of farmers and he cited example of Jitendra Bhoiji, a farmer from Dhule district in Maharashtra.

"Buy the crop from the farmer, keep the payment pending for months on end; probably this was the long standing tradition that the buyers of corn were following. This continued for four months wherein Jitendra ji was not paid his dues. In this situation, the new farm laws that were passed in September came to his aid. Under this law, it was decided that all dues of the farmers should be cleared within three days of procurement, failing which, the farmer can lodge a complaint," the PM informed.

> **The agricultural reforms in the past few days have also opened new doors of possibilities for our farmers**
>
> Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

However, PM's assertion drew strong remarks from the Congress.

The opposition party said the insistence in support of the legislations shows that the government is "drunk on power" and is rigid even in reconsidering the laws.

"The prime minister's obduracy, arrogance and rigidity in dealing with 62 crore farmers and farm labourers of India is writ large by his insistence today in the 'Mann ki Baat' that the three anti-farmer, anti-agricultre laws, forcibly passed in an illegal and unconstitutional manner, by Parliament, are correct," Congress' spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said.

Senior BJP leaders in huddle to discuss issue

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Instead of going to the 'open jail' in Burari, we have decided to lay siege to Delhi by blocking all five main entry points into the national Capital. As we have ration for four months, we are prepared for a long haul," they said.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot sought to add pressure by writing to the PM, urging him to reconsider the three new farm laws.

In Hyderabad, Shah sought to reach out to the farmers, saying their agitation was apolitical. Later, he as well as Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar got into a huddle at BJP president J P Nadda's house to discuss the tangle.

Punjab, Haryana CMs continue war of words

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

THE war of words over the ongoing farmers' protest between Punjab Chief Minster Capt Amarinder Singh and his Haryana counterpart Manohar Lal Khattar continues.

After Khattar's private secretary claimed that the Punjab CM ignored calls made by his Haryana conterpart, Amarinder on Sunday trashed the 'call records' as complete fraud. He said that flaunting a page of his own office register cannot condone Khattar's lies. If he really wanted to connect, he could easily have used official channels or called him up on the mobile phone, argued Amarinder.

By releasing the call records, purporting showing attempts to get in touch with him, the Haryana CM had further exposed his deception, he said.

"If at all someone from his office called my residence, why were the calls made to an attendant? Why were official channels not used to get in touch with me?" he asked.

Meanwhile, Khattar said that the use of unconstitutional language did not suit any chief minister.

Clear bail backlog, SC urges high courts

KANU SARDA @ New Delhi

EMPHASISING that access to justice is democratised and equitably allocated, the Supreme Court has suggested the chief justices of all high courts to dispose off over 91,000 bail pleas pending there.

Citing figures from the National Data Judicial Grid, a bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Indira Banerjee expressed concern over the pending bail applications in the country and said, "The chief justices of every high courts and administrative judges of districts should in their administrative capacities utilize the Information and Communications Technology tools to remedy the institutional problem of bail applications and monitor the pendency as liberty is not a gift for the few."

Stressing that the high courts and trial courts must enforce the basic rule of the criminal justice system of 'bail, not jail' in practice, the judges said, "The grant of bail is the solemn expression of the humaneness of the justice system." The suggestions came in the judgement by which the top court extended the interim bail granted to Republic TV anchor Arnab Goswami and two others in a 2018 abetment to suicide case.

Besides 91,000 bail pleas, 12,66,133 criminal matters such as writ petitions, appeals, revisions and applications are pending in high courts. There are 1,96,861 bail pleas pending in district courts.

"The data on the NJDG is available in the public realm. The NJDG is a valuable resource for all High Courts to monitor the pendency and disposal of cases, including criminal cases.

For Chief Justices of the High Courts, the information which is available is capable of being utilized as a valuable instrument to promote access to justice, particularly in matters concerning liberty." it said.

"Courts must be alive to the need to safeguard the public interest in ensuring that the due enforcement of criminal law is not obstructed. The fair investigation of crime is an aid to it. Equally it is the duty of courts across the spectrum – the district judiciary, the High Courts and the Supreme Court – to ensure that the criminal law does not become a weapon for the selective harassment of citizens," the judgement noted.

It added that high courts get burdened when lower courts decline anticipatory bail or bail in deserving cases and this problem continues in the Supreme Court as well, when high courts refuse similar reliefs.

NIA: Never seized Swamy's straw, sipper

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday refuted claims made by arrested activist Father Stan Swamy that the investigation agency had seized his straw and sipper, and that it has sought 20 days from a court to respond to his plea for the drinking aid.

Terming the claims "false" and "mischievous", the agency said the accused — a hardcore CPI (Maoist) activist — was in judicial custody and the matter was between Swamy and the jail authorities. The 83-year-old was arrested from Ranchi on October 8 for his alleged involvement in the Elgar Parishad case and is lodged at the Taloja Jail in Mumbai.

An NIA spokesperson said the agency never took his custody, and all necessary legal formalities such as his medical exam were duly observed. Nearly a month after his arrest on November 6, Swamy filed an application at the NIA court in Mumbai for getting back his straw and sipper, which he falsely claimed to have been kept by the NIA, the spokesperson said. The NIA filed its reply on November 26. the date given by the court, saying it had conducted his personal search in the presence of independent witnesses and no straw and sipper were found. The court then rejected Swamy's plea.

Centre asks states to cut stamp duty to boost real estate sales

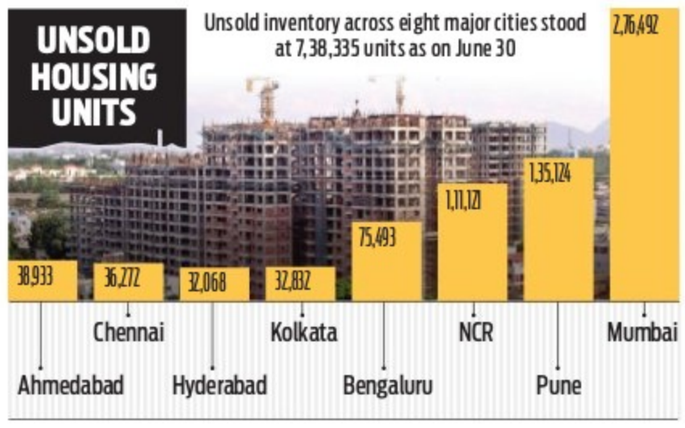
KUMAR VIKRAM @ New Delhi

KEEPING in mind the large number of unsold housing units in major cities, the Centre has written to states to reduce stamp duty on registration of properties. As per an estimate, there are over 7.38 lakh housing inventories lying unsold in the country with Mumbai having maximum 2.76 lakh such units.

Concerns from the demand side and muted sales amid the Covid-19 pandemic have impacted the real estate sector badly. With a view to attract more buyers, many states including Maharashtra and Karnataka have reduced the Stamp Duty rates on transaction of immovable property to boost sales. Initial estimates suggest that there has been very good response.

Union Housing and Urban Affairs minister Hardeep Singh Puri agreed that there is a need to spur economic activities and reduction in stamp duty will help in pushing up the sale.

"It is clearly getting reflected in the increased number of properties being registered recently in the states... I have also written to all the States/UTs to take similar steps for reduction of Stamp Duty to encourage the sales and to accelerate economic activities," said the minister in the backdrop of a virtual conference organised by realtors' body NAREDCO.



The minister mentioned that the sale registration in Maharashtra for September 2020 has surpassed the registrations done in pre-Covid era and recorded the highest registrations of this calendar year i.e. 1,19,834. One of the major factors contributing towards this growth is reduction in Stamp Duty by State Government and various other steps of Central Government, he added.

The minister also asked the industry to offload inventories to spur economic activities. "I think time has also now come to offload some inventories. Don"t hang on to it," Puri said adding that the finance ministry has recently relaxed income tax rules increasing differential between circle rate and transaction value to 20 per cent.

A research by realty consultancy firm Proptiger said that the unsold inventory across the eight cities stands at 7,38,335 units as on 30th June 2020. On a Year on Year basis, unsold inventory stock decreased by 13 percent from 8,46,460 units in Q2 2019.

EXPRESS READ

PMO Intervenes in Elephant Reserve issue

Dehradun: After an activist from Dehradun, Dr Aanchal Sharma, wrote to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on November 16 appealing to save the Thano forest of the Shivalik Elephant Reserve, the PMO on Saturday assigned the matter to chief wildlife warden, Uttarakhand. Last week, the Uttarakhand wildlife board has decided to denotify the Shivalik Elephant Reserve.

China in mind, India test-fires range of missiles

New Delhi: Since July, India has succeeded in testing multiple missiles meant for variable strike platforms and from different medium. Defence experts see it as a message to China which has moved its forces in standoff posture along the Ladakh borders since the month of May. Also, India's own navigation system increases the reliability of strike.

'FINLAND CAN HELP INDIA'S DIGITAL PUSH'

FINLAND has enjoyed historically good relations with India. In the post-Covid era, they can help each other in various sectors including education, digitalisation and climate change, the Ambassador of Finland to India **Ritva Koukku-Ronde** told **Pushkar Banakar**.

Which areas are you looking to cooperate with India in the post-Covid era?
In the current situation, new ways of communication and collaboration, for instance-digital solutions, have been developed. Finland is a highly digital country. In India, we noticed that things like remote working or education can be organised. We hope that the new National Education Policy 2020 will provide opportunities in such key areas. Finland also has the largest number of startups per capita in the world. That is something where there could be cooperation.

We also have to take challenges like climate change seriously. Finland has solutions for clean technology. Many Finnish companies and some 'Make In India' companies are developing solutions for the whole world including India. This week two MoUs will be signed between the ministries of environment and mining of the two countries.

The pandemic has also forced us to think a lot more on the circular economy. During the India-EU Summit, there was special attention given to this aspect.

How have the two countries helped each other during the pandemic?
Even before the pandemic, there was industrial cooperation in the pharma sector between the two countries. India's role is very important globally. The Finnish pharma industry is using raw materials and medicines from India.

What's the plan to boost tourism from India?
We saw a record high of Indian tourists last year and we were foreseeing an even better number this year before Covid happened. We are looking at encouraging students, workers and researchers to come to Finland and pursue careers. Finland is a good place for families as well. We are ranked high in the well-being index as well as we strike a balance between work and life. We have free quality schools and practically free healthcare.

Raveesh Kumar, Indian ambassador to Finland, recently said that India and Finland have not reached their potential in cooperation?
I think the ambassador is right. There could be much more to do in various new fields. There could be cooperation in smart cities, forest management, mining, sustainable waste to energy and maritime cooperation. There are fields like food and beverage industry which can be explored.

We are also looking for more Indian investments. Culturally, there could be more exchanges as well with cooperation in literature, music, dance, visual arts, etc.

Will an India-EU trade agreement boost trade and investment ties between the two countries?
Agreements on trade and investment protection would be beneficial to both parties.

Finland is a pioneer in green energy and waste management. How do you see your expertise being passed on to India?
We are top-ranked in using and promoting green technologies. Our goal is to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035 and be the first fossil-free welfare state. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also strongly promotes ambitious plans for renewable energy. We welcome the initiatives.

Also, there is a large scope of cooperation in the areas of industrial and hazardous waste management.

Where and how do you see India-Finland relations going ahead?
We will have closer and deeper relations with enhanced cooperation in a wide range of sectors. We are strongly on the path towards this goal. I hope more Finnish tourists come to India once the restrictions ease and experience its history and vice versa. I particularly would like Indians to experience the Finnish way of life.

Funds, flexibility & a molecular tweak— factors behind fast-track Covid vaccine

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA

NEVER in the history of mankind has a potential vaccine against any pathogen reached the doorsteps of regulators for public use as quickly as in the case of Covid-19.

Since January this year, scientists in many countries have been working round-the-clock to find a vaccine that could quell the pandemic that threatened to disrupt the world. As of now, interim analyses based on Phase 3 trials of the vaccines by Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, AstraZeneca-Oxford University and Russia's Gamaleya Centre are already out and they are now queuing up for regulatory approvals in various countries before people can be inoculated.

Experts say vaccines usually take years, if not decades, to reach people and the fastest record is about four years for the mumps vaccine. But there are several factors that propelled the jet speed at which the vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 were developed.

The fact that the pathogen driving the pandemic is a coronavirus — one that was strikingly similar to others that had previously jumped from animals to people — meant that scientists could quickly tweak vaccine projects in the works for those. Many teams pursuing vaccines for Covid-19 have previously worked on vaccines for the original SARS virus and MERS.

A molecular tweak by Dr Barney Graham and a colleague at the National Health Institute's Vaccine Research Centre (VRC) in the US is said to have done the wonders. They used sophisticated computer models to quickly find a way to stabilise the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, by adding two amino acid molecules, both proline, through a technique called 2p trick.

> **We will probably reap the benefits of the tremendous advancements in genetic engineering and vaccine development that has happened over the last two-three decades**
>
> Dr Gagandeep Kang, vaccine scientist

As Graham was already collaborating with Moderna, its scientists immediately began working with the stabilised protein. And because VRC is public funded research, their protein was available to anyone else. Specialists point out that Pfizer-BioNTech, Novavax and Johnson and Johnson have also relied on the 2p-tweaked spike protein for their vaccine candidates.

One of India's top vaccine scientists, Dr Gagandeep Kang, pointed out that readymade delivery platforms — RNA (Moderna and Pfizer), adenoviruses (AstraZeneca and Gamaleya) — only to be tailored for SARS-CoV-2 have also worked.

Vaccine development takes a lot of money, too, and governments in developed countries and international organisations ensured there was an unprecedented infusion of funds. The US, for example, has invested US$ 8.15 billion only into vaccine research, development and manufacturing, but the UK too has supported both AstraZeneca and Pfizer.

Then flexibility shown by the regulators allowed unforeseen fast-tracking and permitted human clinical trials only after short-term animal safety data.

Those in the know seem impressed with the results that these factors have led to. "The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna results are solid and based on a decent number of infections," said virologist Shahid Jameel. "So are the Oxford-AstraZeneca results, except this curious result of better efficacy with lower dose. The Russian results are interim, based on only 7 days' follow-up and 39 infections. We should wait for a longer follow-up."

Jameel said efficacy from controlled trial conditions generally drops a little when vaccines go in the field. "Still it will be good," he added. "These results tell us that most vaccines being tried will work as all are based on spike protein so overall there is a lot of optimism."

For some experts, however, there is a caveat. Immunologist Dipyaman Ganguly said, "The concern that's bugging immunologists like us is that the immune response induced by these will be safe for the older comorbid individuals as the immunity induced by natural infection is found to cause severe disease in this population more often."

He insisted that any vaccine must be tested for their safety and efficacy in this population, not only in healthy young adults, as the vaccine trials usually do.

FORENSIC TEST

After a formal complaint was filed by the BJP, Ranchi Police is likely to send an audio clip in which jailed RJD chief Lalu Prasad is allegely heard offering ministerial berth to BJP MLA Lalan Paswan, for forensic tests

1 CRPF MAN KILLED IN IED BLAST IN CHHATTISGARH

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	33	19	Mumbai	33	26
Bhopal	29	12	Panaji	33	25
Jaipur	27	12	Patna	27	13
Amritsar	25	9	Lucknow	26	11
Chennai	31	24	Port Blair	30	26
Kolkata	28	17	Imphal	26	11
Srinagar	15	2	Chandigarh	27	12

Mamata to launch TMC poll campaign on Dec 7

Bengal CM chooses rebel Suvendu Adhikari's fortress for the launch; to project herself as Trinamool's face in all seats

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kolkata

CHIEF Minister **Mamata Banerjee** will sound the poll bugle on December 7 in Midnapore town showcasing herself as the Trinamool Congress' face in all 294 Assembly seats in the West Bengal elections.

All party functionaries from East and West Midnapore districts were invited for her poll rally. The choice of the party's launch-pad in Midnapore comes loaded with symbolism as the region is the backyard of former transport minister Suvendu Adhikari, who recently quit the TMC.

Party insiders said Mamata will appeal to the electorate to vote for her party considering her as the candidate in all the seats. Incidentally, Mamata had said in a rally in Bankura last week that she is the party observer in all the districts.

It was the strategy that the Trinamool supremo adopted in 2016 when the ruling party faced a challenge from the Left Front-Congress alliance, the first-of-its-kind electoral adjustment in the eastern state.

"In 2016, the CM portrayed herself as candidates in all seats and the party reaped electoral dividend. After the debacle in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, the party decided to adopt the same strategy showcasing Mamata as the face to combat the BJP's inroad in the state," said a senior Trinamool leader. "Asking TMC functionaries from East Midnapore to attend the Midnapore rally is politically significant. Since Adhikari claims to have strong support in 14 Assembly constituencies out of the 16 in East Midnapore, the CM will gauge the party's ground level strength after Adhikari's resignation."

Adhikari's father Sisir Adhikari is an TMC MP from Contai and brother Dibyendu Adhikari is an MP from Tamluk. "The CM's meeting in Midnapore is important to see whether Sishir or Dibeyendu turns up. If they don't respond to the chief minister's meeting, it will send a message and the party will take its own course," said the Trinamool leader.

The party supremo will deliver the message that the party will be solely banking on her image of a fighter, no matter whether the rival is the BJP or was the CPI-M in the past, he asserted.

BJP state president Dilip Ghosh hands over the party flag to former CPI(M) party workers who joined the saffron party in Kolkata on Sunday | PTI

'Guv may ask CM to prove majority'

With voices of dissent in the TMC getting shriller, BJP MP Saumitra Khan on Sunday took a jibe at the ruling dispensation, claiming that the governor may soon ask West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to prove her majority in the Assembly. Khan, who is also the state president of BJYM, said that the current turmoil and the brewing discontentment in the TMC have brought to the fore the question if the party still enjoys the support of adequate number of legislators in the House.

GA offers to field Chirag's mom in RS prestige battle

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

THE RJD-led *Mahagathbandhan* (Grand Alliance) in Bihar has made up its mind to put up a candidate against BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi for the Rajya Sabha seat that has become vacant after the death of LJP founder Ram Vilas Paswan.

With the BJP snubbing Chirag by nominating its own candidate from the seat that it had given to the LJP from its quota, the RJD, in a well-calculated move, has offered to field his mother Reena Paswan against Sushil Modi. The opposition party is apparently aiming to drive a wedge between the BJP and the LJP in a bid to distance the Dalit community from the ruling NDA.

Sources said the Grand Alliance has already made the proposal to Chirag and his response is awaited. By offering support to Reena Paswan, the RJD is eyeing the Paswan vote bank, which constitutes around 4.5% of the state's total electorate.

RJD spokesperson Mritunjay Tiwari said the Grand Alliance would finalise its candidate in next one or two days. It was up to the LJP to take up or reject the offer, "but it is almost certain that the Grand Alliance will put up it candidate against Modi," the RJD spokesperson said.

If Chirag rejects the offer, the Grand Alliance may pick RJD state chief Jagdanand Singh or Muslim face Abdul Bari Siddiqui.

> **We will not allow the NDA to get its candidate elected unopposed. The Grand Alliance is determined to put tough challenges to the NDA in its every move**
>
> RJD leader

Though very much aware that their candidate is unlikely to get elected, the Grand Alliance is determined not to let the ruling alliance have a smooth sail. "We will not allow the NDA to get its candidate elected unopposed. The Grand Alliance is determined to put tough challenges to NDA in its every move," a senior RJD leader said.

The Rajya Sabha by-election is scheduled to be held on December 14. The last date of filing nominations is December 3.

Srinagar-Leh highway may remain open in winter due to LAC standoff

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

FOR the first time, there's a possibility that the 440-km strategically important Srinagar-Leh national highway may remain open in the winter months to facilitate movement of troops, equipment and other essentials amid the ongoing standoff between Indian LAC in eastern Ladakh.

A senior official of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) — which looks after the maintenance of the Srinagar-Leh highway that connects Kashmir with Ladakh — told this newspaper they will be doing their level best to keep the highway open this winter.

The official said they had got the equipment and machinery to keep the highway open, but added that all their efforts would depend on nature and the intensity of snowfall.

The nearly 30-km stretch from Gagangeer to Zojila Pass, which is about 105 km from Srinagar, is the main bottleneck in keeping the highway open. The stretch, especially Zojila Pass and its adjoining areas, witnesses heavy snowfall, with the road buried under many feet of frozen ice.

Kargil Deputy Commissioner Baser-ul-Haq Choudhary said the administration had been working on keeping the highway open for winter since last year on the directions of the Ladakh lieutenant governor. On the challenges that it posed, the DC said, "Snow is not the problem; we have got the machines to remove it. The problem is that the landscape and gradient is very steep. There is a 90 degree slope."

According to him, the main problems are the avalanches and the slippery condition of roads due to freezing of snow. The official, however said, if nature supports, they are hopeful of keeping the highway open for heavy vehicles (4x4 with chains).

MEHBOOBA CLAIMS

'DDC polls being used to suppress our voice'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Srinagar

DEMOCRACY in Jammu and Kashmir is being 'murdered' in the name of the ongoing District Development Council (DDC) elections, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti claimed on Sunday.

The election and poll percentage won't have any bearing on the Kashmir issue, she said, questioning that if the scrapping of Article 370 has solved all the issues then why nine lakh troops are deployed in the Kashmir Valley.

She said since the day the Gupkar Alliance announced participation in polls, everything is being suppressed. "If anybody talks, he is being jailed and booked under the UAPA," the former J&K chief minister told the media at her Gupkar residence.

Referring to the Election Commission, Mehbooba alleged that the institutions, who were supposed to make checks and balances, have been compromised. Alleging that everything is being communalised, the PDP chief said, "Sikh is a Khalistani, Muslim a Pakistani and Kashmiri a terrorist."

Referring to Article 370 revocation, Mehbooba said if Article 370 scrapping has resolved all issues, why nine lakh troops are still stationed in Kashmir. "If all issues have been resolved, then the troops should not have been in civilian areas but on borders."

On the improved poll percentage, the PDP chief said, "The poll percentage was higher earlier too. However, poll percentage and election is no solution to Kashmir."

Mehbooba said how many people participate in elections does not have any bearing on the Kashmir issue. "Kashmir issue is there. It is going to be there till it is resolved through dialogue. The talks should be held with people of J&K and Pakistan," she said.

"When talks can be held with China, why can't it be held with Pakistan?"

De-radicalisation of cadres on in LWE-hit C'garh

EJAZ KAISER @Raipur

BILLED as a unique initiative, the police has launched a programme in the Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) hit areas in south Chhattisgarh to de-radicalise surrendered Maoists, cadres lodged in jails or those released from prisons.

The initiative, '*Badalta Mann*' (change of mind/heart), will see participation of the people's representatives from the regions having the strong presence of Maoists. The Chhattisgarh Police's programme is being implemented for the first time in any LWE affected areas in India.

De-radicalisation in India has largely been carried out as counter-terrorism strategy against Islamic fundamentalism with focus on how and why Muslims participated in activities linked to terrorism.

"The campaign is meticulously formulated keeping in mind the target population. Besides the counselling and discussions, they (cadres) would be enlightened through a small booklet, '*Badlem Edka*', in Gondi dialect to apprise them with the difference between the reality and the make-believe world that the Maoist ideology projects," said **Abhishek Pallava**, Dantewada SP. "We are hopeful it will emerge as a game changer. De-radicalisation was brought into play for the first time in any LWE area."

It's often seen that the cadres released from jails continue engaging with the banned outfit. Police are optimist that this campaign will wean them away from the Maoist doctrine.

The '*Badlem Edka*' elucidates on ideology of CPI (Maoist), its relevance and why one should quit it. The data and case studies on Maoist atrocities are highlighted among others

The launch of the de-radicalisation programme in Dantewada was attended by 10 surrendered rebels, 10 rebels who were released from jails and 10 local people's representatives.

EXPRESS READ

Four infants die in a day, probe ordered

Bhopal: A probe has been ordered following the death of four infants, including a newborn, within a single day at a government hospital in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh. While three children who died on Friday were admitted at Paediatric Intensive Care Unit, a newborn girl child died at Sick Newborn Care Unit the same day at the same Shahdol District Hospital. We've ordered a detailed probe into the four deaths" said Shahdol chief medical and health officer.

'Sedition charge with UAPA, NSA being used against rights activists to silence them'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

HOWEVER, Assam saw no case of sedition in 2016 when the BJP came to power. In 2015, too no sedition case was filed while in the previous year, one case was registered.

With the imposition of Central rule, sedition cases began climbing in J&K. While two cases were filed from 2014 to 2017, 12 were reported in 2018, the year it came under Central rule after the PDP-BJP government collapsed. There were 11 cases in the following year.

The situation is similar in Jharkhand, which under BJP rule in 2018 recorded the highest number of sedition cases (18). However, that figure was matched in 2014 when the state was ruled by the JMM.

While there was no case in Bihar in 2016, 2017 and 2019, it had 16 in 2014 and nine in the following year, the highest in the country during that period, and 17 in 2018.

The Bihar Police had lodged a sedition case against 49 celebrities, including Shyam Benegal and Mani Ratnam who had written an open letter to the PM on lynching. While the FIR was later withdrawn, the incident is a grim reminder how the law continues to be a tool to stifle dissent in the country.

The BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh documented a liberal use of Section 124A during 2019 with 10 cases. While the state recorded more cases during the Yogi Adityanath's rule, six were registered in 2016 during the Samajwadi Party rule.

The Aam Aadmi Party ruled Delhi recorded four cases between 2016 and 2019.

Madhya Pradesh saw sedition cases under both Congress and BJP rule. However, Rajasthan saw more cases under the Congress rule.

In Bengal, the use of Section 124A is consistent since 2014. There were 12 cases in six years barring 2018 when there was none. While there were no cases between 2014 and 2018 in Nagaland, it saw eight in 2019. Neiphiu Rio, the incumbent chief minister, assumed office in 2018 after allying with the BJP. Manipur was no exception with five cases in the past two years under the BJP.

In the South, Kerala showed no exception under either CPI(M) or Congress rule. Between 2014 and 2016 under Oommen Chandy's watch as the CM, it registered 11 cases. In contrast, 13 cases in all where reported in 2018 and 2019. The state has a CPI(M) government since 2016.

Under the AIADMK government, Tamil Nadu consistently recorded sedition cases — eight between 2017 and 2019. Telangana saw four cases between 2016 and 2019.

Social activist Nikhil Dey said the colonial law should not have been a part of independent India's framework. "It is drafted in a fashion that so much so easily can be called sedition. It is open to misuse."

A combination of Section 124A, the National Security Act and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act are being invoked against people who are exercising their right of democratic opposition against the implementation of certain laws and policies, observed Dey.

Aditya Nigam, a senior fellow at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, said the colonial and extraordinary law is open to misuse by any state. "However, the use of the provision was much rarer before the BJP government came into power. It has created a culture of vigilantism where the use of the section has become a generalised practice," he said. "In several cases, it is not initiated by states but by individuals from any part of the country who lodge a case under this section. It may not be of any consequence but brings any kind of dissent under the purview of sedition."

> **The colonial law should not have been a part of independent India's framework It is drafted in a fashion that so much so easily can be called sedition. It is open to misuse** — Nikhil Dey, social activist

Panel to plan Netaji's birth anniv celebrations

The state government will celebrate the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose through various programs throughout the year. CM Mamata Banerjee has announced the formation of a special committee chaired by her and comprising Nobel laureate economists Amartya Sen and Abhijit Bandyopadhyay, educationist Sugata Basu, novelist Shirshendu Mukherjee, finance minister Amit Mitra, poet Joy Goswami and singer Sandhya Mukherjee. The panel will start work from January 23. Mamata Banerjee recently wrote a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bring to light the mystery of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's disappearance.

PRANAB MONDAL
Our correspondent in West Bengal
pranabm@newindianexpress.com

KOLKATA DIARY

IIT ready to recall research scholars to campus

IIT-Kharagpur has prepared a list of 50 research scholars who will be recalled from December 1 if they sign an undertaking. The undertaking, among other things, says "In case of emergency, the non-availability/inadequacy of medical facilities may lead to serious consequences for which Institute and/ or its authorities will not be responsible in any form." The clauses in the undertaking state that the research scholar has to be mindful of the fact that the BC Roy Technology Hospital at IIT-Kharagpur provides only primary healthcare and there is no advanced treatment facility on the campus or in Kharagpur township. The research scholars, who are being recalled, had vacated the institute campus in September following a spike in Covid-19 cases.

Airlines call for daily flights to Kolkata again

Airlines have again requested the West Bengal government to allow daily flights to Kolkata from six cities. At a meeting this week, the airline operators' committee requested the Kolkata airport director to take up the issue with the state government once again. Flights to Kolkata from Delhi, Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Chennai and Ahmedabad are suspended following a request from the state government because of high Covid prevalence since July 6. From September 1, the state government allowed flights to arrive from these cities thrice a week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Majerhat bridge likely to open on Thursday

The Majherhat bridge will be thrown open to traffic within the first few days of December, senior officials at the state secretariat said. Though a formal announcement is yet to be made, several state government officials and police said that Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is likely to inaugurate the bridge on December 3. The railways and the PWD, the implementing agency for the ₹200 crore project, have submitted a joint safety certificate on the bridge's structure to the state government. A portion of the old structure, which is now being replaced with the city's first cable-stayed bridge, had collapsed around on September 4 in 2018 killing three persons.

1,453,074
people killed by the coronavirus since the outbreak began in China last Dec, as per AFP

GLOBAL WEATHER

Beijing	4	-6	SNY	Los Angeles	25	9	SNY
Colombo	32	23	TDS	Melbourne	25	9	LR
Dhaka	29	15	SNY	Moscow	3	0	LC
Dubai	29	17	SNY	New York	16	11	TDS
Houston	12	3	SNY	Singapore	32	25	TDS
Istanbul	15	8	LC	Toronto	6	1	HR
London	10	6	LR	Washington	20	8	TDS

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Iran parliament wants inspections to stop, nuke industry to be revived

All 290 MPs call for radical change in country's approach to US, Israel after scientist murder

TEHRAN

IRAN'S parliament on Sunday called for a halt to inspections of nuclear facilitates by foreign observers, as the country's leaders mull over a response to the killing of nuclear scientist Mohsen Fakhrizadeh.

International Atomic Energy Agency, the nuclear watchdog, has provided an unprecedented, real-time look at Iran's civilian nuclear program following the country's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

All 290 members of the parliament signed a statement saying that "the hand of the murderous Zionist regime" can be seen in the assassination.

The MPs proposed the inspection halt in a bill that reportedly also would require Iran's civilian atomic program to produce at least 120 kg of uranium enriched to 20% — a short technical step to weapons-grade levels of 90%.

Iranians pray over the flag draped coffin of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh on Sunday | AP

The statement said that the best respone to the murder would be to "revive Iran's glorious nuclear industry".

Experts warn Iran now has enough low-enriched uranium to reprocess into fuel for at least two atomic bombs if it chose to pursue them.

Some MPs had earlier accused inspectors of acting as "spies" and potentially leading to Fakhrizadeh's death.

Iran's parliament is dominated by hard-liners who likely would support the bill. It ultimately would have to be approved by Iran's Guardian Council. Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has final say on all matters of state.

The statement also called for a radical change in Iran's responses to such killings. It criticised the thinking of "some government members" who believe that negotiating with the West is the way forward.

"But the experiences of terror and sabotage of the US, Israel and their other allies in the country in recent years, which have unfortunately gone largely without proportionate response, have shown how wrong and dangerous this way of thinking is." *AP*

Newspaper op-ed urges heavy assault on Haifa

TEHRAN

AN opinion piece published Sunday by a hard-line Iranian newspaper urged Iran to attack the Israeli port city of Haifa if Israel carried out the killing of the scientist who led the Islamic Republic's military nuclear program in the early 2000s.

Though the *Kayhan* newspaper has long argued for aggressive retaliation for operations targeting Iran, the opinion piece went further, suggesting any assault should destroy facilities and "also cause heavy human casualties."

Israel, suspected of killing Iranian nuclear scientists over the past decade, has not commented on the brazen slaying of Mohsen Fakhrizadeh.

US intelligence agencies and UN nuclear inspectors have said the organized military nuclear program that Fakhrizadeh oversaw disbanded in 2003, but Israeli suspicion of Tehran's atomic program and his involvement has never ceased.

Kayhan published the piece written by Iranian analyst Sadollah Zarei, who argued Iran's previous responses to suspected Israeli airstrikes that killed Revolutionary Guard forces in Syria did not go far enough to deter Israel. He said an assault on Haifa also needed to be greater than Iran's ballistic missile attack against American troops in Iraq following the US killing of a top Iranian general in January.

While *Kayhan* is a small circulation newspaper in Iran, its editor-in-chief Hossein Shariatmadari was appointed by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. *AP*

Trump loses another court challenge on overturning results

HARRISBURG

THE US state of Pennsylvania's supreme court dismissed another legal challenge to the election by supporters of President Donald Trump on Saturday, further reducing his already near-impossible odds of overturning the results.

A Republican lawsuit had sought to invalidate mail-in ballots in the battleground state that President-elect Joe Biden won by about 81,000 votes -- or to throw out all votes and allow the state's legislature to decide the winner.

The court dismissed both claims in a unanimous decision, calling the second one an "extraordinary proposition that the court disenfranchise all 6.9 million Pennsylvanians who voted in the general election."

The lawsuit argued that a Pennsylvania law from 2019 allowing universal mail-in voting was unconstitutional. The judges said that their November 21 challenge to the law was filed too late, coming more than a year after it was enacted and with the election results "becoming seemingly apparent."

Pennsylvania officially certified Biden's victory there on November 24. The lawsuit had also sought to stop certification. Saturday's decision follows a long line of similar ones, including a ruling the day before in which a federal appeals court flatly dismissed Trump's claim that the election was unfair and refused to freeze Biden's win in Pennsylvania.

On Thursday, he said for the first time that he would leave the White House if Biden is officially confirmed the winner by the Electoral College on Dec 14. But on Friday he tweeted that "Biden can only enter the White House as president if he can prove that his ridiculous '80,000,000 votes' were not fraudulently or illegally obtained." Biden won 306 votes in the Electoral College to Trump's 232. *AFP*

Brazil's prez alleges fraud in US election

Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro — who sometimes has embraced the label "Trump of the Tropics" — said Sunday he'll wait a little longer before recognizing the US election victory of Joe Biden. Speaking to reporters, he also echoed President Donald Trump's allegations of irregularities in the US vote. "I have my sources of information that there really was a lot of fraud there," Bolsonaro said. "Nobody talks about that. If it was enough to define (victory) for one or the other, I don't know."

Ethiopia claims it won in Tigray, UN says war isn't over

NAIROBI

ETHIOPIA'S announcement that it has completed its military offensive in its defiant Tigray region "does not mean the conflict is finished," the UN refugee chief said on Sunday, adding he is very concerned about the fate of nearly 1,00,000 Eritrean refugees there in the midst of reports that some have been abducted.

If confirmed, such treatment of refugees in camps close to the Tigray border with Eritrea "would be major violations of international norms," Filippo Grandi said. "It is my strong appeal for the prime minister of Ethiopia for this situation to be addressed as a matter of urgency."

Nearly a month of fighting between Ethiopian federal forces and Tigray regional ones has threatened to destabilize Ethiopia, the linchpin of the strategic Horn of Africa, and its neighbors. The involvement of Eritrea in the conflict has been alleged by refugees and the now-fugitive Tigray leaders but, like much in the sealed-off region, has not been verified.

Meanwhile, in a report from inside Mekele, the International Committee of the Red Cross said a major hospital in northern Ethiopia, Ayder Referral Hospital, is lacking body bags while some 80% of its patients have trauma injuries. *AP*

ANDHRA PRADESH CENTRAL POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED
Dr. Y.S.R. VIDYUT SOUDHA, CORPORATE OFFICE, ITI COLLEGE ROAD, VIJAYAWADA - 520008

e-Procurement Notice

Tender notification No: CPMPT-09 & 11/2020-21 of APCPDCL/CGM(P&MM), dt: 30-11-2020
APCPDCL invites online bids under e-procurement for obtaining 2500KM of L.T. Aerial Bunched Cables (3CX25 + 25Sqmm) and CT-PT Metering sets - 200nos 10/5A (Outdoor), 200nos 20/5A(Outdoor), 25nos 40/5A(Outdoor), 20nos 60/5A(Outdoor), 20nos 75/5A(Outdoor), 200nos 10/5A(Indoor), 50nos 20/5A(Indoor) - required for the FY 20-21 & 21-22. Tenderers can have further details and download the tender schedules from e-Procurement market place from 30-11-2020 to 19-12-2020 i.e., https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in (published by APCPDCL). Contact no's: CGM/P&MM: 9440862448. E-mail: cgmpmm.cpdcl@apcpdcl.in

Chief General Manager / P&MM
APCPDCL, Andhra Pradesh

SBI
भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
STATE BANK OF INDIA
STRESSED ASSETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH-II, HYDERABAD
D.No. 3-4-1013/A, 1st Floor, CAC, TSRTC Bus Station, Kachiguda, Hyderabad-500 027.
Ph: 040-23147100, Fax No: 040-29807791, E-mail: sbi.18359@sbi.co.in

CORRIGENDUM

General public is hereby put on notice to refer to the e-Auction/Sale notice dated **23.10.2020** published in this Newspaper on **01.11.2020** pertaining to **M/s. Suncorp Lifestyles Limited (SLL)**. Please read as **Last date for EMD: 02.12.2020 upto 5.00 p.m.** Instead of **Last date for EMD: 01.12.2020 upto 5.00 p.m.** Other terms & conditions of the original E-Auction Notice remains the same.

Date: 29.11.2020, Place: Hyderabad — Sd/- Authorized Officer, SBI, SAMB-II, Hyderabad.

Karnataka German Technical Training Institute
Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Beside Kennametal Road, N.H.4, Manjunatha Nagar, Bagalgunte, Bengaluru-560073.
Ph.: +9071390842, Website: www.kgtti.com/bengaluru

TENDER NOTIFICATION

KGTTI Bengaluru invites tender for Manpower Services of Security Guard/Housekeeping/Driver/Office Attendant/Cook.
Last date and time to submit tender form is: **11.12.2020, 17.00 hrs.** For further informtion and Tender Document please contact above mentioned address. Mobile No.: 9071390842/ 9380560198. e-Mail: **admin.bengaluru@kgtti.com/ kgttibng.accts@gmail.com**

Sd/- Director, KGTTI, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby put to notice that my client intends to Purchase, the Schedule Property from M/s BHL ASSOCIATES, A Partnership Firm Having its Office at No. 50, 3rd Floor, 6th Main, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore–560055, represented by its Partners (1) Mr.E.Lokanadha Naidu (2) Mr.M.Subramanyam Naidu (3) Mr.Delhi prasad emuru.

Any person having any manner of claim, right, title and interest over the Schedule Property are hereby notified to register their claim with copies of documents to the undersigned, within 15 days from this date of Public Notice. If no objections or claims registered, my client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction to purchase the Schedule Property, which are free from all encumbrances. Any claims received beyond 15 days will not be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1:
All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.24, having CMC Khatha No.29/1/18/1, situated at Basavanapura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now within the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft., and bounded on:
East by : Property No.25; **West by:** Private Property;
North by : Private Property; **South by:** Road.

Item No.2:
All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.25, old No.18/1, having Khatha No.44/4/18/1/25, situated at Basavanapura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now within the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft., and bounded on:
East by : Site No.26; **West by:** Site No.24; **North by :** Private Property; **South by:** Road.

Item No.3:
All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.26, Property No.18/1, having Khatha No.231/1, situated at Basavanapura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now within the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.ft., and bounded on:
East by : Road; **West by :** Site No.25; **North by :** Site No.27; **South by :** Road.

Item No.4:
All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Site No.27,Property No.18/1, having Khatha No.231/1, situated at Basavanapura, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Now within the limits of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, measuring East to West 90 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 3600 Sq.ft., and bounded on:
East by : Road; **West by :** Private Property;
North by : Site No.28; **South by :** Site No.24,25 & 26.

G.V.Sudhakar,
Advocate
No.3, 4, 5 & 8, First Floor, Abhayashrama Complex,
4th Cross, Wilson Garden,Bangalore-560 027.
Ph:080-42194390, 9886359644

Date: 30.11.2020
Place: Bangalore

Public Notice

Management of Dr. Rudrappa's Hospital wishes to inform that all medical records prior to 31.12.2013 will be removed from our records department. Those who wish to obtain a copy of their records may please contact the hospital before 31.12.2020. Requests received after 31.12.2020 cannot be entertained.

Dr. Rudrappa's Hospital
Contact No.:**080-22106688 / 9844092922,** Email:
rudrappahospital@gmail.com

Government of Tamil Nadu
PUBLIC (ELECTIONS-II) DEPARTMENT
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI-600 009.
TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender No.2/2020/5560

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed Companies/Agencies to select as State Level Agency for supply of manpower to maintain ERONET along with associated activities towards conduct of Elections and Annual Maintenance of related hardware equipment in Tamil Nadu for the period of 5 years. The details can be seen in the Tender document which can be downloaded free of cost from the website **www.elections.tn.gov.in** and **www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

1. Queries from the Companies/Agencies should be sent to the e-mail ID sec2.pelecd@tn.gov.in by 05.00 pm on 09.12.2020. The reply of the queries of the Companies/Agencies shall be uploaded by this Department by 05.00 pm on 14.12.2020.
2. The last date for submission of tender document - 3.00 pm on 29.12.2020.
3. Initial scrutiny of the Bid at 3.30 pm on 29.12.2020.
4. Financial Bid - To be communicated later to the technically qualified bidders.
5. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : Rs.25,00,000/-

For Contact :
044-25665327

Additional Chief Electoral Officer (I.T.) & Additional Secretary to Government

DIPR/4406/Tender/2020

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
ESTATE BRANCH, KRISHINAGAR, DHARWAD-5
Fax:+91-836-2441188 Phone :+ 91-836-2214214/332/216/444
E mail: estateofficer@rediffmail.com Epabx:+91-836-2214332/216/444

No.EO/DB/ Seeds/SOS DWD /2020-21 Date: 28.11.2020

"e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTIFICATION"

Tenders have been invited from registered Agencies / firms for Disposal of unfit rejected **1532.95 qtl seeds (Assorted) and 353.26 qtl Soybean** at UAS Dharwad. The details of the tender can be had through e-procurement portal **(http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** For more details please contact /0836-2214332/ 214/ 216/ 444/ 242/ 9448497353 during office hours. Interested agencies need to register with the e-Procurement portal for participating in the tender. For details of registration please contactPh. **No: 080-23010900.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1.	Last Date & Time for Tender Queries / Clarifications.	12.12.2020 Upto 16.00 Hrs
2.	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders.	15.12.2020 Upto 16.00 Hrs
3.	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid.	16.12.2020 Upto 16.15 Hrs

Note: The bidders shall get updated / acquainted with ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM (if any) issued on-line from time to time on the e-procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) during the entire tender process.

Sd/- Estate Officer

NOTICE

We **Pragati Glyoxal (P) Ltd**, having manufacturing unit & sale point at 162(P), 2 Cross, Belagola Ind. Area, Metagalli, Mysore - intend to import and sell 100% water-soluble NPK 19:19:19 Fertilizer as per order no 2900[E] dated 24 Oct 2015 issued by Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry Of Agriculture, Govt. Of India.

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited
H.O: No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore - 560 018.Ph: 26677552

POSSESSION NOTICE FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
[APPENDIX IV (RULE 8-(1)]

Where as the undersigned being the authorised officer of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstructionof Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest ACT 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules. at The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers in the following accounts having failed to repay the amount, notice is here by given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described here in bellow in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 9 of the said rules on the dates mentioned herein below. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited for amount and interest on & other charges.

Date of Possession: 25.11.2020

Name of the Borrower & Description of the Property Mortgaged	Amount outstanding
Applicant. Smt I.B.Rekhavathi **All that piece and parcel of the portion of property bearing No.16, Khaha No.1125, Out of site No.11 and 16, Old assessment No.24/3, Present Assessment No.24/3A, Srigandadakaval Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore. Measuring East To West: 30 feet and North To South: 40 feet., totally 1200 Sq.Ft., and bounded On the East By: Remaining portion of the site No.11, retained by Latha Ramakrishna, West By: Road, North By: Site No.17 & South By: Site No.15.**	**57,30,963/- + Int. thereon 25.11.2020**

Amount paid if any by any of the above borrowers after issuance of Possession Notice, would be reckoned for ascertaining the dues payable at the time of realisation / settlement.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd.,
Bangalore -18

Place: Bangalore
Date: 25.11.2020

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Home Finance Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorised officer of the **IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Home Finance Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **10.01.2019** calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors **1.Shekar Narayana, 2.Lavanya M S,** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.31,88,951.88/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty One And Paise Eighty Eight Only)** as on **07.01.2019** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **26th day of November 2020.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **IDFC First Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Home Finance Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** for an amount of **Rs.31,88,951.88/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty One And PaiseEighty Eight Only)** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES.

All The Piece And Parcel Of The Property Consisting Of All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing western of site. No.42/54/29, BBMP Katha No.384, Old Katha No.35, Assessment No.54/29, situated at Kottigepalya Village, Srigandada Dhakale, Yashwanthapura Hobli, Banglore North Taluk, Presently comes under the limit of BBMP, ward no.73, Rajarajeshwari CMC Ward No.4, Measuring EW:15 and NS:40.

Property Bounded on- East by-Remaining Portion of the same property, West by-Portion of property assessment No.54/29 thereafter Mariyamma Property, North by-Party Mariyamma's Property, South by-30 Feet Road.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Home Finance Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)

Date : 26-11-2020
Place : Bangalore.
Loan Account No : 13872491.

BANGLORE URBAN, BANGLORE RURAL AND RAMANAGARA DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE MILK UNION LTD.,
P.No:080-26096210 / E-mail-bamuladmn@gmail.com

Short term Re-Tender Inviting Notice
(Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

No: BAMUL/ADMN/TENDER/REC/15/2020-21 DATE: 30.11.2020

The BANGLORE URBAN, BANGLORE RURAL AND RAMANAGARA DISTRICT COOPERATIVE MILK UNION LTD., invites Technical & Commercial e-Tender for Providing Online Recruitment processing consultancy services for different cadre posts.

For any further details please feel free to contact the under signed during office hours. The Managing Director, BAMUL reserves the right to accept or reject all or any tenders without assigning any reason there on. The tender processing charges (non-refundable) & EMD may please be paid to e-Portal in any of the forms as specified in the tender document.

(If Tender opening date is declared holiday it is deemed that it will be opened on the Next working day)

Sl.No.	Particulars	E.M.D (in Rs.)
01.	Providing Online Recruitment processing consultancy services for different cadre posts	25,000/-

Tender Schedules may be downloaded from	**30.11.2020 Up to 09.12.2020**
Last Date of Tender submission on Date	**09.12.2020 up to 5.00 PM**
Technical Tender to be opened	**11.12.2020 at 11.00 A.M**
Commercial Tender to be opened	**14.12.2020 at 11.00 A.M**
Place of opening Tender: **Board Room, BAMUL (Banglore Dairy), Dairy Circle Banglore-560029.**	

Tender documents may be downloaded from e-procurement website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in/.** Interested consultants may obtain further information at the same address. The MD BAMUL reserves the rights to accept or reject the tender without assigning any reason, for further information contact at office working hours phone no 080-26096210.

Sd/-
Managing Director
Tender Inviting Authority

CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **GEETHA YAGAVAKOTE SATHYANARAYANA RAO** W/o **LINGAPPA SURADHENUPURA PUTTAMYLARAJOIS,** R/at No.1127 15th B Cross, 2nd Stage B Sector Yelahanka New Town Bangalore-560064 have changed my name to **GEETHA** vide affidavit dated: 28/11/2020 Before Notary **Prakash. C** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **VISHNU ANILKUMAR** S/o **ANILKUMAR ATTIBELE SIDDA REDDY,** R/at No.105 Lakshmi Nilaya 11th main 16th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560030 have changed my name to **VISHNU ANILKUMAR REDDY** vide affidavit dated:28/11/2020 Before Notary **Prakash. C** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PADMA NAVADA, W/o Narasimha Navada Koondapura Manjunath, R/at No 754, 60th Cross 5th Block Rajajinagar Bengaluru 560010 have changed my name to **PADMAVATHI** vide affidavit dtd 28/11/2020 before notary K S Nataraja, Bangalore.

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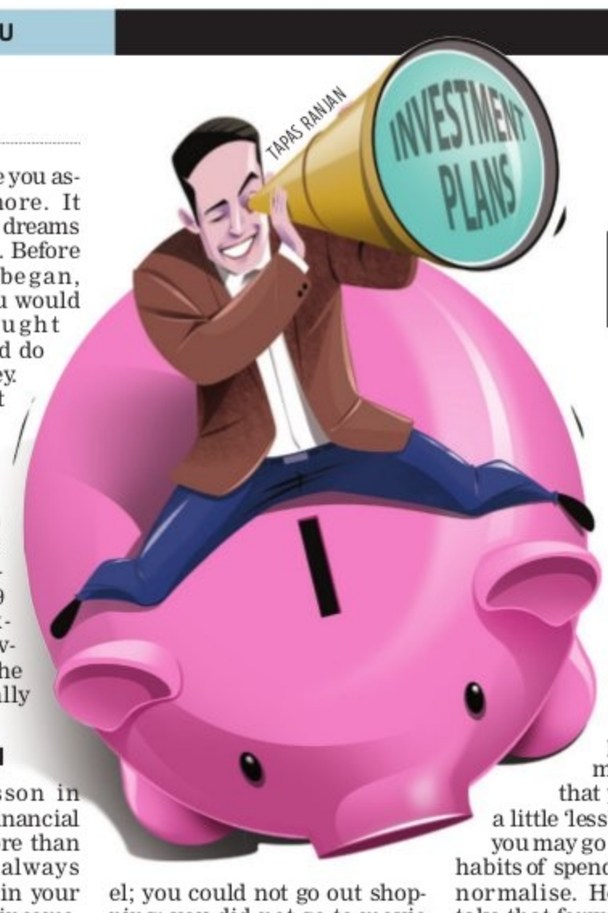
$7.12 bn was the amount of foreign direct investment (FDI) into India from the US during the first half of the current financial year

RAJAS KELKAR



WHAT WE LEARNT IN 2020

Saving money is an achievement but it is not enough to ensure your future financial security

MONEY made you aspire for more. It fuelled your dreams and desires. Before the year began, most of you would have thought about things you could do if you had more money. A lot of you dreamt about owning a home or a fancy car or visiting a dream destination for a holiday.

As the year 2020 draws to a close, a lot has changed. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns enforced by governments around the world have dramatically shifted priorities.

Save more than spend

An introductory lesson in budgeting advised by financial advisors is to save more than spend. Your elders always asked you to live within your means. No matter your income. Creating a monthly surplus is the biggest challenge for most households. There are never-ending expenses. Then, inflation eats into your savings rapidly and incomes to do not rise in the same proportion.

There is a vicious cycle of excess expenditure over income. However, since March 2020, that cycle has been disrupted. Being locked at home meant that you could not travel; you could not go out shopping; you did not go to movie theatres; did not frequent your favourite coffee shop or restaurant. Suddenly, you found more money in your hands. A lot of you could not spend money even if you wanted.

The overall deposits in banks have grown significantly in this period. That is well documented by the weekly statistical supplement, monthly bulletins published by the Reserve Bank of India. A vital takeaway from the past nine months or so is that you can do with a little 'less' in life. Many of you may go back to your old habits of spending once things normalise. However, if you take that forward and make it a part of your life, you are setting yourself up for a better financial future.

Thinking financial planning

For long, you wondered about making a start with financial planning and investing. But the vicious cycle of excess expenditure over income never really allowed you to do so. If you manage to hold on to your monthly surplus even as things get back to normal, you may be able to create that necessary bandwidth to look at financial planning. Listed stockbroking companies like ICICI Securities and Angel Broking have reported an increase in the number of demat account holders. Mutual funds have reported a sharp rise in the number of folios and unique mutual fund investors. A lot of you have sought to find ways to do something with the money. A problem like 'What should I do with my money?' is an excellent problem to have in these times. If you find yourself in that situation, you must get serious about financial planning and investing. Have conversations with learned friends and independent experts about the ways you can go about this.

More time means a lot

Saving money is an achievement. You deserve a pat on the back. However, that is not enough for your financial future. Things that you do with your money matter a lot. This column has often highlighted the importance of asset allocation. Based on your life stage, you must make the right allocation of your money across asset classes. A basic thumb rule is to weigh in favour of investing more when young. Your ability to take risks is better as you have time on your hands. An investment is worth your time if you consistently succeed in beating inflation.

Currently, your fixed deposits are giving you a negative rate of return. That is because the inflation rate is eating into them. So that cannot be an investment. If you are a retiree, you must keep your savings intact by putting them into fixed-income assets. However, if you are young and have surplus money for the past few months, you have no excuse. You have time on your hands to plan well too. It is prudent to use the available time to learn about investing. Know more about the right asset allocation plans for you. Having both time and money at your disposal is a 'never before' situation and perhaps a 'never again' one.

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

MONEY-WISE

THE MARKET RUSH FOR ESG FUNDS

SECTORAL and thematic funds are conventionally used as part of dynamic asset allocation for top ups to a fully constructed portfolio. Thematic funds, by definition, invest across various sectors bound by the primary theme.

As per SEBI's re-categorisation circular, thematic funds are those which have a minimum 80 per cent of total assets invested in equity and equity-related instruments of a particular theme. Some of the popular themes from the past include public sector undertakings (PSU), consumption, energy, multinational corporations (MNC), and infrastructure.

To elaborate, a thematic fund built around infrastructure might invest equities in construction companies, cement companies, steel companies, and sometimes, with a leap of faith and stretching of the definition, even in banking and other firms indirectly related to the infrastructure sector. Where thematic funds seemingly score over sectoral funds, at least in theory, is that the former are more diversified compared to the singular sectoral focus of the latter.

A Theme that has already gained acceptance in developed markets and is fast gaining acceptance in emerging markets, especially in India, is that of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) investing. Simply put, ESG investing translates into seeking sustainable and socially responsible investments. A company is seen to be ESG compliant if it meets all the criteria of environmental, social, and governance standards set by the fund. There is also focus on companies with environment-friendly practices, ethical business practices, and an employee-friendly record.

SBI Magnum Equity ESG Fund, which has an AUM of ₹2,796 crore, is the oldest ESG Fund in India. It was converted to SBI Magnum Equity ESG Fund in May 2016. It has a 96 per cent equity exposure of which 91 per cent has been parked into Large Cap companies. This fund has generated close to 40 per cent returns over the last 6 months.

Quantum India ESG Equity Fund which has an AUM of ₹21 crore, was launched in July-2019. It has around 95 per cent exposure into equities of which 70 per cent is in Large cap companies while 30 per cent is in Mid & Small caps. It has generated 43 per cent returns over the last 6 months.

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
heads LKW-India. He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com

Axis ESG Equity Fund which has an AUM of ₹1,729 core was launched in February-2020 and has around 98 per cent exposure to equities, of which 94 per cent is in Large Caps. It has generated over 34 per cent returns over the last 6 months.

ICICI Prudential ESG Fund which was recently launched has which has an AUM of ₹1,457 crore. It follows a distinctly different asset allocation pattern with a 70-30 mix across Equity and Debt.

Mirae AMC and Kotak Mahindra AMC are the latest entrants into the fray, though the former has chosen a different glide-path.

These are still early days for ESG Thematic funds in India, and the belief is that young investors who have been sensitised to the underlying concept and its moral compass could fuel their growth. Nonetheless, the jury is still out on this one.

Five of top 10 firms lose ₹91,699 cr in m-cap

The combined market valuation of five of India's top-10 most valued firms declined by ₹91,699 crore last week, with Reliance Industries (RIL) the worst hit. While RIL, Infosys, HDFC, ICICI Bank and Bharti Airtel suffered losses in market valuation, TCS, HDFC Bank, HUL, Kotak Mahindra Bank, and Bajaj Finance gained.

Equity market may witness mild volatility over next few sessions

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

LAST week was an exciting one for India's equity markets. The benchmark Nifty, in a volatile trading session, breached the 13,000-points mark for the first time while the 30-share benchmark index BSE Sensec inched closer towards the 45,000 level. In the coming weeks, a wide range of factors—ranging from increasing coronavirus cases and the RBI policy meet to investment trends of foreign institutional investors (FII) are expected to impact investor sentiment. According to analysts, this also indicates that the market may experience some form of volatility, or even witness a sharp correction.

"The Doji candlestick and intra-day charts formation indicates red flags near the 13,000 level. Hence, a strong possibility of quick intra-day price correction is not ruled out in the near term. For the next few trading sessions, 12,810 should be the sacrosanct level for the trend following traders. If it sustains above the same then uptrend texture is likely to continue up to 13,050. And any further upside could lift the index up to 13200 levels. On the flip side, dismissal of 12810 could trigger correction up to 12700-12650 levels," said Shrikant Chouhan, Executive Vice President, Equity Technical Research at Kotak Securities.

Ashis Biswas, Head of Technical Research, CapitalVia Global Research said lackluster trends are likely to continue in the market and the Sensex will need to overcome the 44,400. level. He added, "While a breakout above 44,400 is the key factor from a short-term perspective, our research suggests anything above this level to gain momentum, that could lead to an upside projection till 45,100-45,200 level... we advise the traders to consider a breakout above 44,400 as an opportunity to build fresh long."

Last week, the market had remained buoyant due to expectations of a sharp earnings recovery going forward, primarily due to progress made in the development of Covid-19 vaccines. FPIs bought equities worth $2.05 billion over the past five trading sessions while DIIs sold $1.8 billion worth of equities in the same period.

Going forward, Shibani Sircar Kurian, Senior Executive Vice President & Head, Equity Research, Kotak Mahindra Asset pointed out that India's equity markets will likely also focus on the sustenance of demand post the festival season and the ability of companies to maintain the improvement in profitability.

Pandemic impact forces a rethink on retirement plans for many Indians

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

SURENDRA Arora, a 34 year old software engineer, had everything planned: his children's education, investment and even his retirement. At least until March 2020.

Once the Covid-19 pandemic broke out in full force and the economy tanked, much of his saving were lost in expenses for the treatment of his elderly parents. This was only made worse due to his wife losing her job a steep salary cut effected by his own employers.

Eight months down the line, he says he has finally got his salary reinstated to its original level, but his wife is still struggling to secure a job and he has shifted his pre-Covid goal post of retiring at 45. "It was a major financial crisis for me. Things are slightly better now but I need to save more and work more to be able to retire peacefully like I had planned. I do not see it happening at 45 considering the current situation," Arora laments. He is not alone.

Post-Covid financial shocks and uncertainty about the future has forced many people to rethink their retirement plans and renegotiate their goals to reflect the new financial realities. "I had lost my Job in April. I had an option to withdraw some amount from my PF. It helped me to sail through the first three months. I have got another job but the salary level is not the same as earlier. Right now, I am thinking about how I can secure extra income... my retirement plans have been hit," said Saurabh Sharma, an executive at an export house.

Financial planners warn that the pandemic has had dramatic implications for retirement goals, and that people are reviewing their options and earning power in a world which seems highly uncertain—with a volatile job market, indiscriminate layoffs, and massive salary cuts.

"We have a significant dip in people opting for new SIPs. People are wary of investing in instruments which have lock-in clause. Even those who have their jobs intact, are feeling insecure and this forced them to save in safe instruments. Even those who can afford are holding on their money tightly, " Neeraj Grover, a personal Finance advisor based in Mumbai said. However, this trend is mostly visible in the middle class. More well off clients are investing in Gold and real estate. "One invested in two stressed properties for cheap. He feels this will be better retirement investment than putting it in any fund or other assets".

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

HINDALCO INDUSTRIES

Current Price ₹225.65

Target Price ₹275

HNDL is our preferred non-ferrous pick owing to its robust volume recovery in both India and Novelis; strong primary aluminum business profitability; solid FCF generation, which should reduce leverage sharply; and reasonable valuation. The outlook for Novelis is positive due to resilience in the Beverage Can business and recovery in Auto demand. We expect margins for the Novelis business to remain strong.

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

EXPRESS READ

AirAsia India to induct 3 more A320 neos

New Delhi: AirAsia India plans to add three more Airbus A320 neo planes by June next year as part of its fleet and network expansion. The airline—a joint venture between Tatas and Malaysia's AirAsia Investment Ltd—currently has 32 aircraft, including two A320 neos inducted recently. In a statement, the firm said it had signed an agreement for inducting five A320 neo planes last year. The airline took delivery of the first A320 neo in October and another one earlier this month. "We will be inducting our third Airbus A320 neo in December and we look forward to inducting our fourth and fifth A320 neo by June 2021," a spokesperson said.

FPIs net buyers for second straight month in Nov

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDICATING returning confidence in the Indian economy following steadily recovering earnings and progress on the Covid-19 vaccine front, official data shows that foreign portfolio investors (FPI) remained net buyers in the Indian bourses for the second consecutive month in November. According to market data, they pumped in a massive ₹62,951 crore in Indian markets between November 3 and 27.

For equities segment, this is the highest quantum of investment made by FPIs since such data has been made available by the National Securities Depository Ltd.

According to NSDL data, FPIs invested a net ₹60,358 crore into equities and ₹2,593 crore in debt, taking the total net investment to ₹62,951 crore.

In October, FPIs had become net buyers through a net investment of ₹22,033 crore. According to market experts, investors have begun investing more in emerging markets such as India due to the much higher potential upside. The noises over promising vaccine trials has also reduced the risk posed by emerging market economies. Inflows into other emerging markets like South Korea and Taiwan also show a similar trend. "FPIs have invested into top bluechips of India in a big manner. A bulk of the investment that has come in has been into the banking sector. So, the inflow has been concentrated in a few stocks," Jain further said. said Harsh Jain, co-founder and COO at Groww.

According to Morningstar India, now that major uncertainties such as the US Presidential Election is now behind us, investors are beginning to ramp up bets. Attractive valuations compared to the developed markets and the weakness in the dollar is also supporting buying of Indian equities and other instruments experts add.

Going forward, the biggest challenge on domestic front will be to bring down Covid-19 case numbers and get the economy back on the growth trajectory, it added.

Firms raise ₹25,000 cr through IPOs in 2020 so far

High liquidity and robust interest from investors helped companies raise nearly ₹25,000 crore through initial share-sales this year so far and 2021 is expected to be equally strong for the IPO market, PTI reported on Sunday. An analysis of data available with the stock exchanges shows that the 12 IPOs in 2020 so far raised around ₹25,000 crore, significantly higher than ₹12,362 crore mopped up through 16 initial share-sales in all of 2019.

FULL COVER

Life, health insurance covers in place? Don't forget personal accident insurance

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

DURING this Covid 19 pandemic people have realised the uncertainty revolving around daily life and their health. Given the circumstances, planning for an unforseen future has become all the more important to ensure that one is best prepared to deal with any unexpected exigencies that may arise.

Alongside health and life insurances, financial experts believe that people should be equally concerned about putting in place a personal accident insurance policy cover. This type of insurance policy does not only things such as road accidents but also a wide range of other injury-causing accidents ranging from drowning to injuries caused by accidental fires.

According to insurance executives, this type of cover caters to different kinds of disabilities and events including death, permanent total disability, temporary total disability, and permanent total disability.

> **Any earning member of a family should get a personal accident cover to secure their family's financial interests. It will help to get access to good treatment**
>
> S Sanjay Kumar, financial planner

Usually, the policy pays 100 percent of the sum assured in these cases. "Any person who is an earning member of a family should get a personal accident cover to secure their family's financial interests. The cover will provide financial help to get access to good treatment," said S Sanjay Kumar, a personal finance advisor.

The premium for such types of insurance covers is largely dependent on the person's occupation and the amount of cover that is chosen. According to insurance executives, the premium for the policy usually depends on how risky your chosen occupation is. Experts say that such people should, especially, focus on setting in place a personal accident insurance cover since it can prove to be a huge help in protecting your financial security and giving you a buffer if an unfortunate accident makes you unable to earn or work for a particular time.

General insurance policies have not grown as well as health and life insurance over the past few months, shows official data from the IRDAI. Gross direct premiums actually fell by 1.7 per cent in the month of October compared to October of last year

Maradona's doctor probed for involuntary manslaughter

Diego Maradona's doctor was on Sunday being investigated for involuntary manslaughter four days after the Argentina legend suffered a fatal heart attack. Police raided Leopoldo Luque's surgery and home in search of possible evidence pointing to negligence, a news agency reported.

Where have all the bowlers gone!

Inability of Shami and Bumrah to make early inroads and letting Australia dominate middle overs cost India one-day series

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

L, L, L, L, L. This is India's record in the last five ODIs. If one goes back to the end of last year's World Cup and now, India have won only six matches, four of them against West Indies, who had to play the qualifiers to make it to the showpiece event. India beat Australia in January, but since then, it has been downhill.

Sunday's win helped Australia clinch the ODI series. It is another bilateral affair, which not many will remember, but in terms of the tour which still has a T20 and Test series coming up, it has handed Australia early momentum. The outcome was almost a certainty in both games around the half-way mark and that tells a story or two.

There is a pattern emerging from these defeats. This is the fourth time in five matches that India conceded 300 and this has not happened because of lack of bowling options. This year in eight ODIs, the average opening partnership against India has been 125.42 runs. It is the worst for any side in any era. And it is happening with two of India's strike bowlers — Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Shami — playing six of those eight matches. "In white-ball cricket it's important to get wickets at regular intervals. It keeps the run rate in check and if you look at our batting in these matches, after 30-40 runs we were losing wickets. That is where the difference has been between the teams, those 66 or 51 runs (margins of defeat). The bowling unit needs to get breakthroughs and the batting group has to work on how to make these partnerships big," said KL Rahul, who scored 76 off 66 balls.

India captain Virat Kohli's 89 was not enough to post a victory | AFP

After the 2017 Champions Trophy, India identified middle overs as the area which was losing them matches. So they benched two experienced spinners in favour of wrist spinners. With Bumrah, Shami and Bhuvneshwar Kumar giving wickets up front, Yuzvendra Chahal and Kuldeep Yadav troubled opponents in the middle. But in the lead-up to the 2019 World Cup, with a brittle middle-order to take care of, they thought Kuldeep, Chahal, Shami, Bumrah made the tail too long. In came Ravindra Jadeja.

With Bumrah and Shami not taking wickets in the powerplay, India have not been able to attack. This is working for the opposition. On Sunday, David Warner and Aaron Finch were content playing out the two, but the moment Navdeep Saini and Chahal came on, they didn't hold back. In both games, the floodgates remained open from overs 15 to 40. In the two ODIs, India have conceded 213 and 216 runs in the second powerplay (11-40 overs), taking two wickets in each. Chasing 375 and 390, India succumbed to scoreboard pressure. There were dot balls and other problems while batting, but the matches were half lost after conceding those giants totals.

Steve Smith scored his second successive century to guide Australia to a series win at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Sunday | AFP

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: Warner (run out) 83, Finch c Kohli b Shami 60, Smith c Shami b Pandya 104, Labuschagne c Agarwal b Bumrah 70, Maxwell 63 (not out), Henriques 2 (not out). **Extras** (lb2, nb1, w4) **7. Total** (50 ovs; 4 wkts) **389. FoW:** 1-142, 2-156, 3-292, 4-372. **Bowling:** Shami 9-0-73-1, Bumrah 10-1-79-1, Saini 7-0-70-0, Chahal 9-0-71-0, Jadeja 10-0-60-0, Agarwal 1-0-10-0, Pandya 4-0-24-1.

INDIA: Dhawan c Starc b Hazlewood 30, Agarwal c Carey b Cummins 28, Kohli c Henriques b Hazlewood 89, Iyer c Smith b Henriques 38, Rahul c Hazlewood b Zampa 76, Pandya c Smith b Cummins 28, Jadeja c Maxwell b Cummins 24, Saini 10 (not out), Shami c and b Maxwell 1, Bumrah lbw Zampa 0, Chahal 4 (not out). **Extras** (nb2, w8) **10. Total** (50 ovs; 9 wkts) **338. FoW:** 1-58, 2-60, 3-153, 4-225, 5-288, 6-321, 7-321, 8-326, 9-328. **Bowling:** Starc 9-0-82-0, Hazlewood 9-0-59-2, Cummins 10-0-67-3, Zampa 10-0-62-2, Henriques 7-0-34-1, Maxwell 5-0-34-1.

134
No of dot balls played by India.

22k
Virat Kohli completed 22,000 international runs on Sunday.

7
Only the second time in ODI history that all top 5 batsmen scored 50+ in the same innings.

Four options to host domestic season: BCCI

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

THE BCCI has given the state units four options for the domestic season. Due to the pandemic, all tournaments will not be held and there won't be space for at least one format. According to a mail from BCCI president Sourav Ganguly to the affiliates on Sunday, the season could begin on December 20 if they want the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20s.

The four options given to the states are: A) Only Ranji Trophy B) Only Syed Mushtaq Ali T20s C) Ranji Trophy and Syed Mushtaq Ali D) Syed Mushtaq Ali and Vijay Hazare Trophy one-dayers. The units have to pick one of these and respond by December 2, as the BCCI has stated it has to set up six bio-secure bubbles across the country for these tournaments.

The email also mentions windows for each of these tournaments. Syed Mushtaq Ali from December 20 to January 11. Ranji Trophy, which will have 67 match days, will begin on January 11 and run till March 18. Vijay Hazare Trophy, which isn't top priority at the moment, would be played from January 11 to February 7, only if Ranji Trophy doesn't happen.

The BCCI believes there is time to accommodate at least two senior men's events. The T20 tournament has gained importance as there are talks of a full-fledged player auction ahead of next year's IPL, which is likely to have nine teams. Most states are eager to play this and Ranji, but Covid-19 numbers in north India continues to be a worry.

If Ranji Trophy is conducted, there will be a change in the Elite and Plate formats. In the last two seasons, Plate division featured 10 teams. This will be reduced to eight. The Elite division, which had 28 teams in Group A, B and C, will have five groups of six teams each, taking the total to 30.

As reported earlier by this newspaper, the associations of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra, Baroda and Bengal are in contention to host Elite games. Pondicherry is talked about for the Plate division. But with the Cricket Association of Pondicherry unable to use its stadiums for local tournaments because of issues with the UT government, this is uncertain.

BCCI has stated that in the six cities, at least three venues should have facilities to digitally broadcast matches. Chennai, Bengaluru, Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam-Vizianagaram, Vadodara, Kolkata all have venues with such facilities. Surat and Indore have also expressed interest to host.

EXPRESS READ

Barca pay tribute to Diego

MADRID: Barcelona paid tribute to their former player Diego Maradona with an emphatic return to form in La Liga and a 4-0 win over Osasuna. Martin Braithwaite, Antoine Griezmann, Philippe Coutinho and Leo Messi scored as Barcelona climbed from 14th to eighth on the league table. Messi celebrated by pulling off his Barcelona shirt to reveal a vintage Newell's Old Boys jersey from Maradona's one season with the club in Rosario, Argentina.

Cavani inspires United

LONDON: Edinson Cavani inspired Manchester United's fightback from two goals down to snatch a 3-2 win against Southampton in the Premier League. Jan Bednarek and James Ward-Prowse netted for Southampton. After Bruno Fernandes pulled one back, substitute Cavani scored twice. Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur played out a 0-0 draw.

Sable sets DHM record

NEW DELHI: Ethiopians Amedework Walelegn and Yalemzerf Yehualaw smashed event records to win the men's and women's titles, respectively, in the Delhi Half Marathon held in a bio-secure environment. For India, Olympics-bound Avinash Sable smashed the national record with a time of 1:00:30. The 26-year-old was 10th overall. He pocketed ₹3.5 lakh first prize and an additional ₹1 lakh for setting the event record.

Day of draws in ISL

CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC and Kerala Blasters played out a 0-0 draw in the ISL. Chennaiyin's Jakub Sylvester missed a penalty in the 75th minute. They have four points from two matches, Blasters two from three. In Sunday's first match, Odisha FC came back from 0-2 to draw 2-2 with Jamshedpur FC. Both teams opened their accounts with the draw. They have played two games each.

MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LIMITED

Registered Office: Muthoottu Buildings, Market Road, Kozhencherry, Pathanamthitta, Kerala - 689 641

CIN: U65910KL1998PLC012154 GSTIN: 33AABCM5994M1ZY

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold Ornaments pledged with under mentioned branches of the company, which were overdue for redemption and which have not been redeemed so far in spite of repeated notices, will be auctioned at the concerned branches on 16.12.2020 at 10 AM.

HASSAN DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD,1st FLOOR, S N S COMPLEX, OPP: MAHAVEERA PETROL BUNK,B M ROAD, HASSAN-573201. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-ARSIKERE: 25989, 26577, 27341, 27456, 27494, 27525, 27564, 27643, 27665, 27680, 27737, 27750, 27831, 27842, 27849, 27881, 27901, 27908, 27922, 27966, 27968, 27977, 28016, 28020, 28042, 28046, 28081, 28100, 28121, 28164, 28170, 28234, 28307, 28324, 28330, 28331, 28336, 28393, 28405, 28419, 28434, 28449, 28472, 28476, 28479, 28488, 28518, 28526, 28534, 28550, 28572, 28588, 28608, 28621, 28636, 28645, 28650, 28651, 28654, 28656, 28738, 28970, 29374, 29459, 29460, 29500, 29581, 29605. KAR-BM ROAD-HASSAN: 3270, 3271, 3272, 3307, 3612, 3720, 3723, 3724, 3726, 3729, 3730, 4016, 4337, 4339, 4340, 4342, 4346, 4347, 4371, 4372, 4373, 4374, 4856, 4857, 4858, 7344, 7480, 8030, 8041, 8116, 8355, 8357, 8364, 8413, 8418, 8468, 8565, 8572, 8579, 8661, 8679, 8691, 8706, 8741, 8744, 8968, 8989, 9010, 9013, 9083, 9093, 9094, 9111, 9113, 9243, 9246, 9316, 9410, 9411, 9458, 9470, 9475, 9508, 9538, 9553, 9566, 9637, 9689, 9694, 9709, 9818, 9821, 9853, 9854, 9876, 9883, 9885, 9946, 9949, 9958, 9981, 10017, 10033, 10052, 10053, 10069, 10075, 10076, 10110, 10114, 10127, 10145, 10147, 10185, 10256, 10261, 10278, 10301, 10409, 10447, 10461, 10522, 10595. KAR-CHENNARAYAPATNA: 8407, 8708, 8768, 8847, 8958, 8970, 9041, 9168, 9290, 9351, 9462, 9493, 9514, 9584, 9650, 9665, 9689, 9738, 9744, 9793, 9839, 9936, 9984, 9986, 10000, 10017, 10031, 10043, 10069, 10095, 10118, 10275, 10348, 10356. KAR-RC ROAD: 5742, 5849, 6084, 7175, 7214, 7240, 7476, 7662, 7745, 7754, 7842, 7845, 7893, 7895, 7915, 7971, 8065, 8079, 8101, 8118, 8137, 8154, 8171, 8236, 8252, 8278, 8280, 8281, 8364, 8370, 8388, 8401, 8414, 8449, 8474, 8552, 8553, 8576, 8579, 8685, 8728, 8764.

BANGALORE DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD, NO. 8/14, S M ROAD, NEAR AYYAPPA TEMPLE, JALAHALLI WEST, BANGALORE - 560 015. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-A D HALLI: 8435. KAR-ANJANANAGAR: 7352, 7405, 7818. KAR-ATHEBELE: 4093, 4095, 4132. KAR-BASAVESHWARNAGAR: 7627, 7628, 7629, 7630, 7661, 7696, 7740, 7830, 7859, 7889, 7959, 7976, 7981, 7983, 7997, 8034, 8036, 8047, 8102, 8110, 8133, 8147, 8166, 8190, 8224, 8232, 8247, 8271. KAR-BOMMANAHALLI: 13039, 13200, 13441, 13474, 13531, 13656, 13731, 13771, 13776, 13777, 13805, 13856, 13858, 13891, 13961, 13989, 14013, 14050, 14064, 14223, 14225, 14463. KAR-BTM LAYOUT: 7152, 7215, 7295, 7311, 7326, 7350, 7404, 7432. KAR-CHANDAPURA: 6367, 6478, 6549, 6617, 6651, 6874, 6968, 6971, 6983, 7084. KAR-DODDA BANASAWADI: 7202, 7462, 7463, 7537, 7538, 7566, 7608, 7652, 7668, 7744, 7758, 7782, 7885, 7911, 7932, 7938, 7986, 8046, 8062, 8093, 8119, 8135, 8136, 8145, 8185, 8192, 8194, 8246, 8261, 8281, 8291, 8293, 8344, 8346, 8356, 8369, 8388, 8398, 8399, 8435. KAR-DODDA BOMMASANDRA: 9290, 9345, 9409, 9774, 9792, 10033. KAR-GIRINAGAR: 6092, 6318, 6456, 6467, 6478, 6487, 6509, 6524, 6533, 6546, 6566, 6573, 6575, 6578, 6604, 6768, 6809, 6919, 7040, 7043, 7045, 7151, 7163, 7179, 7232, 7233, 7243, 7275, 7337, 7376, 7385, 7399, 7441, 7463, 7478, 7902. KAR-HEBBAGODI: 16132, 16263, 16293, 16321, 16407, 16472, 16490, 16554, 16585, 16643, 16648, 16698, 16723, 16824, 16908, 16912, 16913, 16934, 16985, 17009, 17012, 17035, 17059, 17060, 17076, 17089, 17112, 17117, 17180, 17243, 17253, 17270, 17276, 17307, 17308, 17329, 17331, 17408, 17421, 17428, 17451, 17453, 17468, 17472, 17483, 17484, 17485, 17486, 17493, 17526, 17544, 17549, 17561, 17562, 17570, 17585, 17587, 17610, 17613, 17621, 17623, 17624, 17659, 17724, 17726, 17767, 17787, 17833, 17866, 17870, 17877, 17882, 17888, 17891, 17970. KAR-HEBBAL BANGALORE: 6999, 7099, 7535, 7604, 7612, 7626, 7661, 7684. KAR-HENNUR: 11354, 11421, 11462, 11499, 11520, 11521, 11664, 11685, 11713, 11729, 11759, 11785, 11868, 11929, 11977, 11996, 12041, 12103, 12104, 12223, 12234, 12271, 12284, 12301, 12302, 12319, 12366, 12373, 12377, 12422, 12439, 12510, 12519, 12545, 12568. KAR-HOSA ROAD: 21096, 21097, 21148, 21164, 21165, 21182, 21194, 21307, 21308, 21328, 21392, 21441, 21495, 21628, 21653, 21665, 21705, 21783, 21787, 21807, 21808, 21886, 21893, 21925, 21930, 21945, 21965, 22014, 22070, 22073, 22133, 22201, 22214, 22226, 22246, 22301, 22384, 22388, 22400, 22403, 22416, 22419, 22435, 22439, 22450, 22491, 22499, 22521, 22535, 22539, 22582, 22630, 22641, 22672, 22678, 22683, 22699, 22712, 22713, 22740, 22744, 22749, 22898, 22908, 22909, 22925, 23041, 23068. KAR-HOSAKOTE: 11549, 11562, 11594, 11700, 11702, 11705, 11884, 11953, 11987, 12005, 12006, 12107, 12108, 12171, 12172, 12173, 12175, 12180, 12189, 12190, 12259, 12301, 12348, 12386, 12392, 12418, 12428, 12496, 12503, 12505, 12517, 12538, 12544, 12548, 12591, 12606, 12653, 12701, 12705, 12737, 12746, 12756, 12759, 12760, 12761, 12762, 12763, 12791, 12793, 12818, 12820, 12823, 12835, 12838, 12844, 12846, 12856, 12857, 12858, 12877, 12884, 12890, 12900, 12908, 12916, 12920, 12932, 12934, 12936, 12947, 12967, 12975, 12996, 13001, 13002, 13010, 13032, 13040, 13041, 13043, 13047, 13048, 13122, 13131, 13133, 13137, 13174, 13180, 13191, 13196, 13212, 13213, 13244, 13286, 13291, 13292, 13304, 13317, 13354, 13370, 13371, 13372, 13378, 13398, 13405, 13527, 13536, 13542, 13545, 13546, 13547, 13587, 13589. KAR-HSR LAYOUT: 15512, 15575, 15585, 15833, 16041, 16208, 16301, 16552, 16602, 16605, 16655, 16656, 16750, 16785, 16848, 16860, 16861, 16919, 16960, 17065, 17104, 17118, 17119, 17124, 17136, 17208, 17249, 17281, 17322, 17429, 17445, 17492, 17502, 17656, 17681, 17788, 17854, 17870. KAR-INFANTRY ROAD: 4091, 4287, 4312, 4385, 4397, 4414, 4457, 4517. KAR-JALAHALLI: 10392, 10558, 10614, 10622, 10623, 10759, 10779, 10832, 10880, 11105, 11149, 11173, 11181, 11196, 11237, 11349, 11351, 11376, 11398, 11400, 11429, 11430, 11432, 11445, 11495, 11496, 11517, 11560, 11586, 11587, 11588, 11589, 11773, 11774. KAR-JAYANAGAR: 7631. KAR-JP NAGAR: 14018, 14097, 14104, 14186, 14242, 14267, 14448, 14503, 14546, 14548, 14578, 14644, 14653, 14681, 14756, 14768, 14836, 14848, 14861, 14862, 14868, 14871, 14970, 14977, 14980, 15050, 15220. KAR-K R PURAM: 11095, 11336, 11386, 11413, 11421, 11427, 11457, 11472, 11559, 11592, 11605, 11609. KAR-KAGGADASAPURA: 30026809, 30026874, 30026909, 30027020, 30027161, 30027177, 30027230, 30027234, 30027248, 30027255, 30027310, 30027338. KAR-KAMMANAHALLI: 5048, 7344, 7378, 7500, 7639, 7735, 7753, 7754, 7767, 7768, 7769, 7770, 7781, 7791. KAR-KENGERI: 5813, 5877, 5906. KAR-KORAMANGALA: 3449, 3513, 3549, 3550, 3620, 3680. KAR-KOTHANNUR: 14631, 14769, 14827, 14856, 14858, 14874, 14884, 14896, 14919, 15033, 15071, 15078, 15088, 15104, 15113, 15133, 15171, 15187, 15211, 15225, 15250, 15262, 15318, 15340, 15341, 15359, 15365, 15409, 15416, 15419, 15420, 15436, 15437, 15452, 15461, 15463, 15487, 15543, 15566, 15582, 15584, 15595, 15631, 15641, 15645, 15649, 15651, 15665, 15673, 15686, 15687, 15688, 15720, 15721, 15785, 15789, 15795, 15832, 15845. KAR-KUMBALGODU: 9334, 9370, 9494, 9501, 9514, 9522, 9709, 9825, 9879, 9970, 10131, 10135, 10145, 10166, 10185, 10234, 10236, 10250, 10270, 10288, 10298, 10314, 10391, 10548, 10561, 10608, 10644. KAR-LALBAGH: 11059, 11085, 11183, 11225, 11402, 11414, 11416, 11473, 11484, 11602, 11682, 11716, 11717, 11810, 11902, 11963. KAR-LINGARAJAPURAM: 4905, 4972, 4974, 5105, 5193. KAR-M.S.PALYA: 6530, 6594, 6595, 6596, 6597, 6619, 6652, 6718, 6746, 6748, 6892, 6982, 7040, 7247, 7300, 7410, 7436, 7442, 7460, 7468, 7482, 7494, 7540, 7554, 7576, 7580, 7606, 7619, 7652, 7729, 7793, 7807, 7857. KAR-MADIVALA: 9560, 9634, 9653, 9824, 9827, 9895, 10146, 10203, 10268, 10278, 10334, 10415, 10418, 10445, 10476. KAR-MALLESHWARAM: 5351, 5801, 5859, 5878, 5893, 5918, 5976, 6018, 6027, 6044. KAR-MANJUNATHA NAGAR: 10792, 11037, 11210, 11395, 11397, 11433, 11515, 11538, 11557, 11659, 11696, 11697, 11763, 11832, 11867, 11876, 11925, 12044, 12051, 12059, 12068, 12121, 12204, 12242, 12295, 12339, 12400, 12422, 12430, 12438, 12538, 12566, 12575. KAR-MARATHAHALLI: 7467, 7508, 7697, 7706, 7712, 7760, 7790, 7805, 7858. KAR-MARUTHISEVA NAGAR: 7572, 7763. KAR-MATHIKERE: 10735, 10761, 10870, 10883, 10921, 10955, 11000, 11005, 11006, 11024, 11098, 11122, 11226, 11227, 11290, 11295, 11441, 11621, 11680, 11760, 11767, 11825, 11835, 11842, 11892, 11947, 11955, 11957, 11984, 11985, 11990, 11998, 12026, 12027, 12041, 12044, 12050, 12051, 12059, 12060, 12083, 12092, 12095, 12153, 12204, 12205, 12210, 12316, 12338, 12339, 12352, 12366, 12416, 12417. KAR-MODDALAPALYA: 6894, 7057, 7061, 7165, 7166, 7167. KAR-MUTHANALLUR: 4942, 5091, 5329, 5505, 5517, 5568, 5569, 5570, 5571, 5665, 5685, 5706, 5726, 5743, 5746, 5788, 5813, 5841, 5845, 5865, 5876, 5884, 5900, 5902, 5904, 5905, 5920, 5937. KAR-NAGARABHAVI: 6302, 6380, 6481, 6542, 6610, 6646, 6669, 6844, 6955, 7234, 7235, 7242, 7275, 7391, 7392, 7393, 7394. KAR-PEENYA: 1074451, 1074515, 1074567, 1074916, 1075017, 1075198, 1075260, 1075265, 1075269, 1075427, 1075448, 1075470, 1075510, 1075511, 1075688, 1075725, 1075729, 1075741. KAR-RAJAJINAGAR: 8314, 8412, 8565, 8626, 8627, 8798, 8893, 8923, 8953, 8983, 8984, 8985, 9135, 9151, 9152, 9153, 9154, 9155. KAR-RAMAMURTHY NAGAR: 10263, 10264, 10412, 10413, 10482, 10550, 10644, 10754, 10832, 10910, 10966, 11010, 11091, 11149, 11183, 11268, 11287, 11323. KAR-RT NAGAR: 11062, 11155, 11170, 11188, 11211, 11240, 11422, 11423, 11456, 11460, 11487, 11550, 11635, 11681, 11682, 11741, 11755, 11780, 11786, 11813, 11830, 11860, 11861, 11876, 11899, 11901, 11934, 11947, 11989, 12017, 12018, 12050, 12056, 12061, 12138, 12165, 12167, 12204, 12265. KAR-SANJAY NAGAR: 4702, 4834, 4862, 4887, 4946, 5103, 5119, 5176, 5247, 5257, 5322, 5498. KAR-SARJAPUR ROAD: 10048, 10383, 10396, 10419, 10463, 10504, 10505, 10532, 10547, 10548, 10549, 10559, 10617, 10691, 10795, 10902, 10916, 10944, 10956, 10962, 11023, 11041, 11049, 11084, 11123, 11197, 11203, 11271, 11272, 11292, 11298, 11307, 11322, 11323, 11382, 11417, 11437, 11497. KAR-SBM COLONY: 6056, 6069, 6148. KAR-SRINAGAR: 6465, 6642, 6783, 6784, 6879, 6889, 6978, 6979, 6987, 7086, 7104. KAR-SUMANAHALLI: 56348, 56673, 56937, 57066, 57134, 57309, 57338. KAR-SUNKADAKATTE: 13029, 13325, 13476, 13552, 13575, 13591, 13717, 13723, 13858, 14015, 14232, 14460, 14643. KAR-T.C.PALYA: 6324, 6494, 6564, 6614, 6839, 7001, 7056, 7159, 7171, 7205, 7342, 7448, 7470, 7548, 7549, 7552, 7556, 7557, 7564, 7572, 7612, 7623, 7628, 7639, 7646, 7647, 7667, 7675, 7700, 7716, 7718, 7730, 7732, 7733, 7770, 7815, 7863, 7875, 7923, 7990, 7997, 8012, 8032, 8042, 8052, 8077, 8214. KAR-THANISANDRA: 6224, 6308, 6369, 6564, 6576, 6611, 6691, 6693, 6694, 6695, 6782, 6800, 6843, 7000. KAR-THIPPASANDRA: 24731, 24791, 24810, 24811, 24938, 25001, 25002, 25003, 25032, 25042, 25047, 25124, 25242, 25253, 25295, 25328, 25368, 25375, 25384, 25385, 25405, 25440, 25453, 25659, 25664, 25666, 25667, 25672, 25674, 25690, 25695, 25744, 25819, 25821, 25920, 25924, 25979, 25986, 26005, 26009, 26021, 26032, 26045, 26061, 26066, 26089, 26103, 26116, 26117, 26126, 26132, 26146, 26149, 26156, 26159, 26187, 26253, 26315, 26343, 26396, 26453, 26454, 26478, 26500. KAR-UDAYNAGAR: 5292, 5493, 5498. KAR-UTTARAHALLI: 315193, 315745, 315970, 315980, 316079, 316080, 316212. KAR-VIDYARANYAPURA: 5621, 5672, 5680, 5753, 5860, 5933, 6150, 6398, 6455, 6567. KAR-VIJAYNAGAR: 6447, 6499, 6543, 6657, 6878, 6990, 7100, 7111, 7184. KAR-WILSON GARDEN: 5341, 5364, 5400, 5525, 5664, 5672, 5718, 5733, 5745, 5768, 5799, 5804, 5809, 5810, 5816, 5838, 5839, 5840, 5841, 5844, 5851, 5937, 5954. KAR-YESHWANTHPUR: 98608894, 98608967, 98609339, 98609372, 98609492, 98609498, 98609577, 98609604, 98609681, 98609830, 98609839, 98609843, 98609870.

MYSORE DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD,NO.4583/1, GANESHA TEMPLE ROAD, NR MOHALLA, NEAR MARUTHI CIRCLE, MYSORE-570007. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-AGRAHARA: 7315, 7632, 8033, 8041, 8083, 8132, 8318, 8327, 8385, 8391, 8422, 8512, 8549, 8600, 8640, 8689, 8769, 8825, 8857, 8858, 8873, 8900, 9008, 9031, 9108, 9119, 9120, 9462. KAR-BOGADI: 3961, 4069, 4070, 4548, 4631, 4648, 4654, 4690, 4787. KAR-CHAMARAJA DOUBLE ROAD: 7547, 7632, 7962. KAR-HEBBAL MYSORE: 8156, 8261, 8366, 8539, 8624, 8693, 8900, 8964, 9192, 9548, 9550, 9939, 10227. KAR-HINKAL: 4217, 4516, 4940, 5004, 5010, 5089, 5178, 5585, 5760, 5776. KAR-KR NAGAR: 6794, 7576, 7666, 8356, 8526, 8543, 8595, 8685, 8816, 8857, 8862, 8904, 8947, 9025, 9046, 9083, 9126, 9144, 9176, 9326, 9367, 9371, 9504, 9513, 9532, 9533, 9534, 9624, 9779, 9785, 10470, 10471, 10472, 10473. KAR-NANJANGUD: 5386, 6461, 6540, 6545, 6618, 6728, 6998, 7101, 7164, 7211, 7239, 7250, 7251, 7346, 7412, 7454, 7504, 7587, 8110. KAR-NR MOHALLA: 10848, 11354, 11405, 11424, 12092, 12215, 12743, 12811, 13248, 13302, 13347, 13369, 13453, 13565, 13677, 13678, 13679, 13680, 13681, 13861, 13883, 13940, 13964, 13990, 14116, 14217, 14317, 14325. KAR-PANDAVAPURA: 5425, 5456, 5457, 5514, 5594, 5682, 6038, 6060. KAR-SARASWATHIPURAM: 4221, 4665. KAR-THERESIAN COLLEGE CIRCLE: 12129, 12258, 12434, 12763, 12892, 12909, 12910, 13158, 13183, 13539, 13738. KAR-V V MOHALLA: 6834, 7275, 7512, 8433. KAR-VIVEK CIRCLE: 5916, 6476.

SHIMOGA DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD, 1st FLOOR, C N ROAD, BEHIND GOVT. HOSPITAL,NEAR RANGAPPA CIRCLE,BHADRAVATHI-577301. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-BHADRAVATHI: 4676, 4709, 4848, 4854, 4859, 4888, 4902, 5046, 5066, 5113, 5265, 5292, 5312, 5413, 5487, 5502, 5548, 5616, 5637, 5719, 5782, 5787, 5792, 5793, 5794, 5808, 5812, 5813, 5818, 5827, 5841, 5871, 5915, 5926, 5974, 6047, 6054, 6055, 6056, 6067, 6091, 6092, 6094, 6099, 6108, 6123, 6134, 6147, 6153, 6177, 6745, 6969, 6970, 6972. KAR-SAGARA: 4800, 4812, 4886, 4919, 4937, 4965, 4990, 5056, 5080, 5104, 5114, 5115, 5116, 5117, 5118, 5155, 5233, 5254, 5268, 5281, 5286, 5287, 5349, 5357, 5398, 5405, 5424. KAR-VIDYANAGAR: 7040, 7129, 7333, 7406, 7502, 7550, 7602, 7723, 7918, 7992, 8041, 8167, 8169, 8271, 8290, 8396, 8407, 8422, 8462, 8493, 8583, 8593, 8597, 8602, 8603, 8618, 8635, 8642, 8664, 8684, 8693, 8703, 8738, 8752, 8754, 8758, 8836, 8865, 8882, 8913, 8921, 8988, 9046, 9060, 9062, 9064, 9074, 9090, 9091, 9114, 9143, 9163, 9182, 9195, 9197, 9204, 9216, 9221, 9301, 9374, 9772. KAR-VINOBHANAGAR: 4048, 4055, 4152, 4168, 4208, 4332, 4339, 4347, 4366, 4388, 4425, 4441, 4453, 4544, 4557, 4578, 4638, 4680, 4702, 4714, 4740, 4770, 4778, 4782, 4783, 4796, 4798, 4807, 4816, 4824, 4826, 4833, 4845, 4847, 4848, 4869, 4897, 5000, 5005, 5017, 5023, 5027, 5049, 5192, 5244.

RAMANAGAR DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD., ABR TOWER,2nd FLOOR,B M ROAD,OPP.KSRTC BUS STAND,RAMANAGARA-562159. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-BIDADI: 11126, 11862, 12138, 12504, 12512. KAR-RAMANAGARA: 7069, 7184, 7185, 7262, 7282, 7470, 7494, 7602, 7721, 7900, 7901, 7943, 7944, 7961, 7987, 8012, 8017, 8084, 8135, 8158, 8162, 8287, 8298, 8303, 8314, 8319, 8323, 8339, 8360, 8362, 8386, 8391, 8392, 8393, 8405, 8436, 8470, 8473, 8497, 8505, 8546, 8604, 8612, 8692, 8696, 8731, 8774, 8811, 8812, 8846, 8863, 8900, 9157, 9395.

CHAMARAJNAGAR DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD,34, FIRST FLOOR SHREE RAM COMPLEX, SAMPIGE ROAD, CHAMARAJANAGAR-571313. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-CHAMARAJA NAGARA: 5346, 5355, 5530, 5649, 5744, 5820, 5826, 5827, 5884, 5901, 6014, 6159, 6170, 6171, 6185, 6210, 6273, 6292, 6314, 6397, 6424, 6483, 6484, 6542, 6560, 6576, 6588, 6668, 6698, 6705, 6721, 6761, 6812, 6855, 6857, 6858, 6897, 6901, 6922, 6970, 6994, 6995, 7033, 7050, 7098, 7104, 7138, 7173, 7183, 7207, 7210, 7214, 7221, 7222, 7251, 7271, 7276, 7280, 7287, 7301, 7303, 7320, 7333, 7334, 7345, 7376, 7387, 7414, 7417, 7423, 7438, 7466, 7477, 7500, 7541. KAR-GUNDLUPET: 5489, 5502, 5898, 5952, 6014, 6035, 6050, 6193, 6328, 6419, 6493, 6516, 6549, 6574, 6610, 6676, 6682, 6804, 6816, 6845, 6847, 6889, 6893, 6901, 6921, 6942, 7028, 7064, 7069. KAR-KOLLEGALA: 3603, 3806, 3851, 4080, 4161, 4163, 4243, 4384, 4498, 4557, 4627, 4697.

CHITRADURGA DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD, 1st FLOOR, SHUVARNA COMPLEX, V G TEXTILES,NEAR LAKSHMI BAZAR, CHITHRADURGA-577501. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-CHITRADURGA: 4365, 4465, 4553, 4642, 4699, 4700, 4706, 4773, 4786, 4860, 4881, 4959, 5045, 5048, 5103, 5106, 5108, 5122, 5124, 5142, 5143, 5147, 5158, 5160, 5167, 5178, 5207, 5213, 5216, 5217, 5221, 5347. KAR-HOLALKERE: 9063, 9066, 9123, 9134, 9137, 9163, 9169, 9191, 9192, 9211, 9219, 9234, 9246, 9310, 9388, 9420, 9470, 9544, 9553, 9571, 9748, 9766, 9823, 9935, 9972, 9974, 10005, 10049, 10055, 10082, 10089, 10103, 10122, 10179, 10180, 10197, 10269, 10274, 10328, 10330, 10351, 10370, 10434, 10442, 10443, 10452, 10527, 10543, 10563, 10672, 10675, 10677, 10678, 10679, 10680, 10681, 10690, 10694, 10701, 10705, 10721, 10730, 10771, 10784, 10807, 10834, 10835, 10836, 10837, 10838, 10851, 10872, 10877, 10895, 10952, 10953, 10954, 10955, 10958, 10960, 10975, 10976, 10978, 10986, 10987, 11001, 11026, 11027, 11030, 11031, 11035, 11043, 11044, 11045, 11046, 11048, 11050, 11053, 11054, 11059, 11060, 11124, 11144, 11163, 11164, 11180, 11183, 11197, 11229, 11232, 11285, 11326, 11327, 11333, 11344, 11353, 11359, 11426, 11433, 11446, 11485, 11491, 11508, 11523, 11578, 11619, 11654, 11679, 11699, 11711, 11722, 11739, 11742, 11746, 11758, 11759, 11765, 11769, 11778, 11780, 11784, 11785, 11786, 11788, 11789, 11791, 11792, 11796, 11797, 11806, 11808, 11810, 11817, 11824, 11836, 11852, 11854, 11860, 11866, 11870, 11872, 11876, 11883, 11884, 11886, 11887, 11889, 11892, 11897, 11899, 11907, 11930, 11935, 11956, 11960, 11967, 11968, 11974, 11982, 11984, 11986, 11987, 12005, 12019, 12026, 12027, 12028, 12029, 12030, 12031, 12034, 12043, 12046, 12047, 12052, 12054, 12055, 12056, 12057, 12058, 12060, 12061, 12064, 12070, 12072, 12087, 12094, 12104, 12115, 12125, 12144, 12148, 12155, 12156, 12171, 12187, 12192, 12217, 12253, 12254, 12265, 12291, 12300, 12303, 12309, 12373, 12401.

DAVANAGERE DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD, SRI KOTTERESWARA COMPLEX,1ST CROSS, ASHOK ROAD,DHAVANAGERE -577002. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-DAVANAGERE: 6005, 6330, 6410, 6426, 6449, 6587, 6590, 6625, 6676, 6698, 6705, 6967.

TUMKUR DISTRICT AUCTION: MUTHOOTTU MINI FINANCIERS LTD, 1st FLOOR, TVV CIRCLE, OPP.BHARAT PETROLEUM BUNK ,MADHUGIRI - 572132. **AUCTION DATE : 23.12.2020**
KAR-KORATEGERE: 7751, 7830, 8095, 8120, 8235, 8265, 8292, 8372, 8482, 8509, 8557, 8755, 8834, 8840, 8846, 8847, 8915, 8916, 8922, 8942, 8977, 8999, 9010, 9017, 9021, 9024, 9045, 9049, 9149, 9151, 9152, 9155, 9234, 9271, 9272, 9292, 9308, 9329, 9347. KAR-KUNIGAL: 5138, 5228, 5288, 5317, 5331, 5434, 5554, 5578, 5666, 5722, 5724. KAR-MADHUGIRI: 7896, 7955, 8067, 8157, 8171, 8175, 8178, 8235, 8253, 8364, 8367, 8388, 8513, 8540, 8575, 8591, 8595, 8641, 8674, 8899, 8905, 8912, 8913, 8914, 8932, 8946, 8951, 8965, 8984, 8985, 8986, 9005, 9025, 9033, 9039, 9051, 9053, 9065, 9116, 9131, 9132, 9148, 9173, 9

सत्यमेव जयते
GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

GUJARAT ACHIEVES HIGHEST FDI

SHRI NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister, India

SHRI VIJAY RUPANI
Chief Minister, Gujarat

From April to September 2020, Gujarat has achieved FDI of INR 1.19L crore, accounting for 53% of the total national inflow. Despite tough times due to COVID 19, Gujarat, under the dynamic leadership of the Chief Minister Shri Vijay Rupani, has emerged as a front runner in overall industrial development, and is paving the way towards an Atmanirbhar Bharat.

INVESTMENT IN GUJARAT

Gujarat's FDI saw a massive surge of 240% for FY 19-20, which is the highest amongst any Indian state.

As per DPIIT data for April-September 2020, the state received FDI worth INR 1.19 lakh crore for the first six months for fiscal FY 2020-21, accounting for 53% of the total FDI investment received in India.

As per the Annual Survey of Industries, Gujarat stood first in India in terms of Industrial Output with 17.5% of India's output. Gujarat contributes to over 23% of India's exports (April-September 2020) and Gujarat's ports handle over 40% of India's cargo.

Gujarat stands 1st in terms of number of IEMs filed & actual investment reported for 2019.

Gujarat had 51% share (1st Rank in India) of IEMs filed in India in terms of value with a proposed investment of USD 49 billion in 2019 as per DPIIT data.

While India saw an increase of 48% in proposed investments (IEMs) in 2019, Gujarat recorded a growth of 333% over previous year.

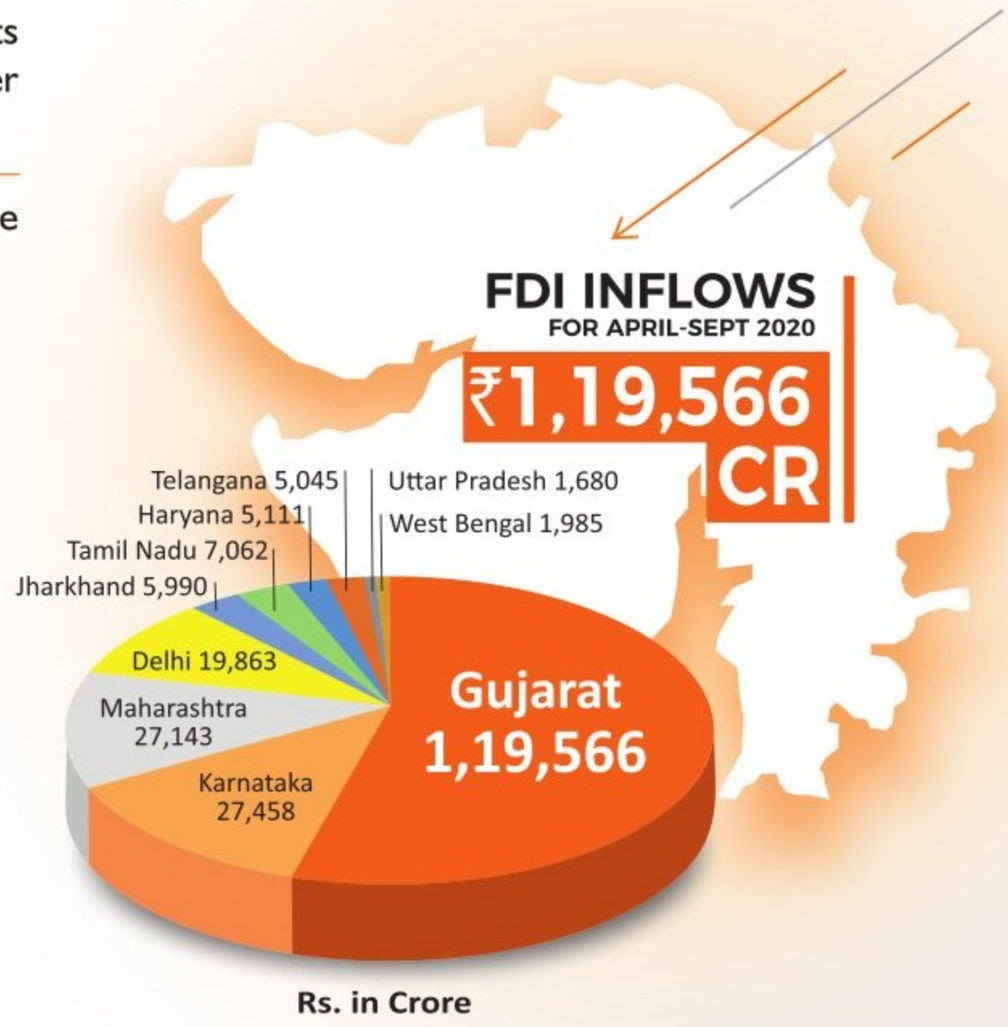
Nearly 100 Fortune 500 companies are already present in the state.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF GUJARAT INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2020

- 15 thrust sectors with incremental benefits
- Incentives based on capital investments in the state; First state to delink incentives with SGST
- Capital subsidy upto 12% of fixed capital investment
- Capital & interest subsidy to MSMEs
- Incentives for setting up R&D centers by private companies
- Relocation incentives for industries shifting from other countries
- Government land on lease for long term
- Dedicated relationship managers as single point contact
- Mega online permission & central inspection agency

"Highest FDI inflow in these times is a true reflection of Gujarat as a business friendly state."

Shri Nitinbhai Patel,
Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat



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30.11.2020
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

New album

On this day in 1979, Pink Floyd's new album, *The Wall*, was released in the UK. The album explored a fictional story of a struggling rockstar through rock opera

THE SONGS

The Wall was Pink Floyd's 11th studio album. The songs from the albums explored rockstar Pink losing his father in World War II, his mother, and his abusive teachers

THE BAND

Pink Floyd was a British rock band, who later popularised the concept album for rock audiences. The members were lead guitarist Syd Barrett, bassist Roger Waters, drummer Nick Mason, keyboard player Rick Wright, and guitarist David Gilmour

INFLUENCE

Pink Floyd suffered a major setback when Syd Barrett left the band. It is rumoured that Barett's mental health struggles influenced this album

Phantom to have a pan-India release

PG 4

Manasi Prasad

A TUNE FOR THE TIMES

A response to everything going on, Manasi Prasad's new single reimagines an old love song in a modern context

• **Vidya Iyengar**

Work hours = screen time, after hours = screen time. While the pandemic may have brought families closer with work from home being the norm, classical musician Manasi Prasad wonders whether the pandemic has actually improved communication levels. In her new single, *Maathada Baaradeno* (Why don't you speak with me), which released on Saturday, Prasad has turned an old javali (love song) sung first by Bangalore Nagarathnamma, a famous devadasi musician of early 1900s, and set it to a modern context to make it more relevant to contemporary times. It was released on her YouTube channel.

"This is an artistic response to the situation, and has a video accompaniment which is a representation of how husbands and wives are spending time together in lockdown, but questions whether they are really communicating, or are just involved in their own screens," says Prasad, who is also the director of Indian Music Experience (IME), an interactive music museum.

While many people associate classical music with devotion and spirituality, Prasad is trying to look at it in a different way to make it more relevant to contemporary times. "While quality family time was a thing pre-pandemic, that has now been replaced with social media and Netflix distractions," she says.

While Prasad has done the vocals, the accompaniment on keyboard is by Shadrach Solomon. Recorded at her home studio in East Bengaluru, which was set up recently, Prasad crafted a story line, and shot and recorded it in the last two months. The main challenge was shooting the video, which required them to be sans masks. This resulted in not many close ups as part of the video. "We need to adapt to the circumstances and do whatever we can," she says.

The lockdown has been an "absolute disaster" for the artistic community, but a few live concerts here are signs of green shoots. "Classical music is created in the moment. It's not the same as starting into a screen, and exploring a raga differently," says Prasad. She quickly adds that, on the contrary, this has helped reach out to newer audiences. Having been working on reviving the compositions of maestro T Chowdiah, she is also preparing for an online concert organised by a mid-western classical music organisation in the USA. "Even if I had travelled to the US for a live performance, it's usually to the coast or West. So in a way, these boundaries are being broken," she says.

> **"The song's video is a representation of how husbands and wives are spending time together in lockdown, but questions whether they are really communicating** —Manasi Prasad, musician

WINNING HEARTS

Earlier this month, Niharika NM posted a video on the popular saying – 'If you love someone, let them go'. In it, she angrily rants to ask if she's running a lodge, where one could come and go as they please. With heavy usage of Bengaluru street lingo, the video managed to reach, and crack up, all kind of audiences. The video has garnered close to 5.5 lakh views and has been shared by many. Actors Samyukta Hornad and Kavya Venkatesh left comments on it too.

OF LOLs AND LA

Bengaluru's funny girl Niharika NM talks to *CE* about her Netflix debut, life in California, and the muse behind her characters

> **I knew that the only thing that made me tolerable to most people were my dad jokes, that were so bad they were almost good. So, I started a YouTube channel as a creative outlet**
> —Niharika NM

• **Monika Monalisa**

A South Indian aunty or a Californian girl – Niharika NM can imitate any with the same ease. Currently riding high on her latest stint in Netflix's *Behansplaining*, featuring Srishti Dixit and Kusha Kapila, and her viral comic video strips on Instagram, Niharika has a lot to be beaming about these days. Getting into a show where comic artistes like Dixit and Kapila have made their niche might be a risk, but Niharika says she was ready to give it her best shot. "It feels great to be a part of the *Behensplaining* universe. I was super stoked when Netflix reached out and wanted me to be a part of it. Kusha, Srishti and Aisha are super talented and I'm just trying my best to match their awesomeness," says the Bengalurean, who is currently pursuing her MBA in Los Angeles.

Confessing that she started comedy with her 'terrible dad jokes', Niharika never knew it would go so far. "I did computer science engineering for my undergrad, and a year into it, I just knew that I'd be a useless engineer. I also knew that the only thing that made me tolerable to most people were my dad jokes, that were so bad they were almost good. So, I started a YouTube channel as a creative outlet. I started making comedy skits, sketches and rants about everything under the sun," says Niharika. She initially started by creating characters from her childhood. "I've been trying to showcase my personality while creating content because it just feels more authentic to me right now and I'm getting slightly comfortable just being myself and dipping into my South Indian roots," says the 23-year-old, who moved to LA in 2019. "Life in the USA is different, but quite exciting. Quarantining by myself wasn't the greatest feeling in the world especially as it was the first time I was ever away from my family. However, I did try my hand at cooking, which I very quickly realised I absolutely suck at," jokes Niharika, who tried her hand on short format content for the first time during the lockdown.

"I think the Instagram rant that I made about the quote, 'If you love someone, let them go', has been a game changer for me. I did not expect it to get the type of response it got, but it definitely surprised me to see how many people could relate to it," says Niharika, whose video was shared by South Indian actors like Khushbu Sundar. "Every time a celebrity reposts my videos or tells me I'm funny, I can never digest it and I'm always excited about it," says Niharika, who tries her best to stay calm while responding to them. "But Khushbu is such a legend that I could not even act calm about getting her attention," she laughs.

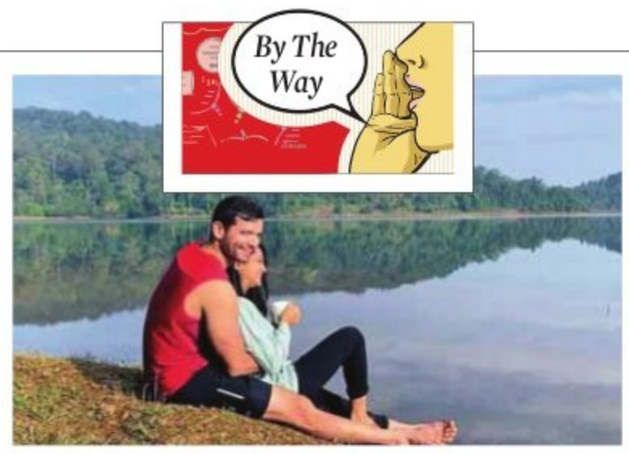
CITYREAD

Hip Hop community unites for clean air

Beatboxers, B-boy dancers and other members of the Bengaluru Hip Hop community came together at theJhatkaa.org lungs installation on Church Street, on Saturday. They played music to raise awareness against air pollution.

PG courses for academic year 2021-2022

Bengaluru City University has announced that the last date for submission of online applications for admission to postgraduate courses for the academic year 2020-21 is extended with a fine of ₹100 till Nov. 30.



Striking a pose

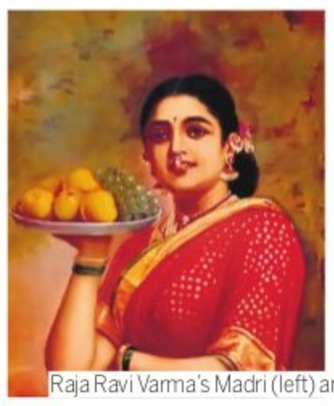
Sandalwood couple - Aindrita Ray and Diganth Manchale - are setting couple goals. The duo has been spending a lot of time together, especially with fun outdoor activities, like trekking and cycling. Ray recently shared a cute picture on Instagram of both of them sitting by a lake, and said, "Some surreal moments u know that will stick with you forever!!" Needless to say, the comment section had many fans leaving heart emojis.

London calling

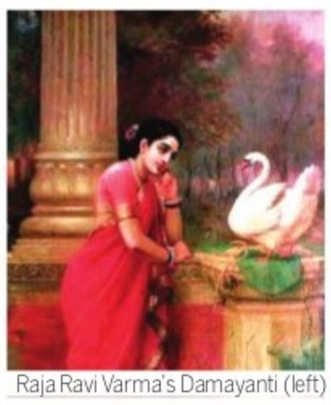
Actor Harshika Poonacha, who is currently in London, is having the time of her life. In one of the photos she posted on Instgaram, she said, "Hello from London. Did you forget to call somebody you love ? Call them right away! , You don't know how many days months or years you are living for, just live them happily with your loved ones , if u can't meet them, atleast make a call to check on them. Love is life Love everyone , Live Happily."

IN FOCUS

What do self-love and Raja Ravi Varma's artworks have in common? Find out in this shutterbug's new project



Raja Ravi Varma's Madri (left) and Nair's recreation with a helmet



Raja Ravi Varma's Damayanti (left) and Nair's self-portrait inspired by it

Zooming in within

• **Monika Monalisa**

In this fast-paced life, we often tend to take self-love for granted. In an effort to overcome this, city-based photographer Lakshmi M Nair has started a self portrait series – The Goddess in you – where she is recreating some of the Raja Ravi Varma paintings with contemporary items and thoughts.

Nair says the pictures come from what she feels and are derived from her emotions. "It turned into a self-portrait series because there was no one else to click my pictures," laughs Nair, continuing, "I have always been critical about myself. But when I was introduced to photography, it gave me a lot of time for self-introspection." The idea for this project came while she was sorting through her cupboard and found some silk saris. "But then, changing the way I dressed wouldn't change how I thought," she explains.

About choosing Raja Ravi Varma's paintings, she says, "He has been a feminist and advocate of women's rights. He tried to break gender stereotypes and his work has always been extraordinary." She then recreated the paintings according to what she was going through. For example, she recreated Madri – lady with the fruit – using a helmet. "I have always been a bike rider. But coming from a conservative family, that's not normal," says 34-year-old Nair, who specialises in street photography.

In some pictures, however, it's the concept that she wanted to bring to light. For instance, she recreated Damayanti – lady with the swan – in a kitchen while holding a travel book. "The original picture is about a lady speaking her heart out to the swan. For me, I might be working in the kitchen, but my heart will be in the mountains," explains Nair, who has been receiving many positive messages. "One lady told me she related to the pictures and would change the way she looks at herself. Even if the pictures bring in positive change for one person, my attempt would be successful," says Nair.

HOT ONES FOR YOUR FEET

Reebok and Complex Networks' hit First We Feast series Hot Ones unveils a spicy footwear collaboration, serving up mild, medium and hot takes on Reebok's Club C, Classic Leather and Shoqnosis models, respectively. Products in the Reebok X Hot Ones collection are priced from `7,999. **Available at:** shop4reebok.com

THE MOTHER OF ALL OVENS

Häfele brings to you Combi-ovens from its Premium Range of Appliances which combine the standard technology of an oven with added modes of steam or microwave. All Combi-ovens come with an intuitive touch panel for easy control, an auto menu to helps you pull off impressive dishes, and multiple cooking levels to get more work done in less time. **Available at:** hafeleappliances.com and select stores

CHRISTMAS CHEER

This Holiday season, Starbucks launches its limited-edition beverages, food and merchandise with a message to spread joy and #CarryTheMerry. Holiday favourites like Jolly Baked Apple Latte, Crunchy Hat Mocha, Salted Dark Caramel and Carrot Cake, make it to the menu. **Available at** all Starbucks stores till January 5, 2021

CALL OF THE CARNATIC

Charsur Arts Foundation will host the Carnatic Music Festival themed – 'Shakti - The Primordial Force' online from December 16. The two-week-long concert will be available for live streaming from the comfort of your home on www.In.Live. **To purchase tickets,** visit http://www.charsur.in.live

BACARDI NH7 WEEKENDER MUSIC FESTIVAL WILL GO DIGITAL ON DEC. 5 AND 6. TICKETS AVAILABLE ON INSIDER.IN

Politically correct

On December 13, Dialogues with Books will host their next session where participants will explore the political fiction genre. The event will be hosted by Ananth Harihar and will be held from 4 pm to 6 pm. Registration compulsory. **For details, visit:** dialogues.space

Winter Menu

Bring in winter with some warm food for the soul, like khao suey and rajma ghee khichdi. Check out the new coffee menu on offer too. **Where:** Street Storyss **When:** Ongoing

Art show

This art exhibition brings together modern masters and contemporary maestros. The lineup includes F N Souza, Ram Kumar and K Laxma Goud. **Where:** Gallery Time & Space, Lavelle Road **When:** Dec. 11-13

Minimalistic designs

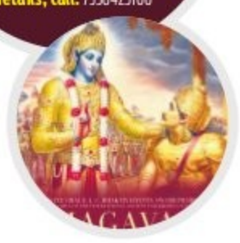
For the minimal lovers, designer Kunal Anil Tanna launches a minimal festive wear line, apt for intimate occasions, just in time for the upcoming wedding season. Kunal's festive collection is a delight for those experimental grooms who love to try unusual colours, silhouettes and styles. Understated classic meets unconventional as this collection is a tribute to all those who love to make a statement with panache. **Available at:** https://www.azafashions.com/

Happy hours

Enjoy two cocktails at the price of one, along with sides of Indian and international dishes. **When:** Everyday, 11am to 8pm **Where:** R Bar, Renaissance Bengaluru Race Course Hotel

Learn the Gita

ISKCON Peramburis set to conduct a free online course 'Learn Gita Easy' in Tamil and English. The course, spread over 18 days, will cover one chapter of the Gita every day. Course will be on Zoom from December 1 to December 18, from 7.30 pm to 8.30 pm. **For more details, call:** 7358423100



Storytelling and drama to the aid

Indian Institute of Psychodrama, in association with World Storytelling Institute, is presenting 'Exploring Stories through Drama' – an 8-session (over 4 weekends) online certification course on Storytelling Therapy and Psychodrama. It will be available from 3 pm to 6 pm on December 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 27 and 27. **For details, call:** 9884700104/106/135

Glam eyes

Owndays offer a range of around 1,500 styles from basic to functional, stylish and fashionable eyewear for men and women starting at `2990. With 24 brands under the parent company, Owndays offers eyewear for children, young adults, millennials and the elderly. **For details, visit:** www.owndays.com

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

SOYA KHEEMA PAV

INGREDIENTS

- **Soya chunks:** 2 cups
- **Onion & tomato:** 1 each
- Paste of one onion paste
- Puree of two tomatoes
- **Salt:** 1 tsp
- **Red chilli powder, chaat masala, turmeric:** 1/2 tsp each
- **Pav bhaji masala:** 1.5 tsp
- **Ginger paste:** 1 tsp
- **Garlic paste:** 1 tbsp
- **Green chilli paste:** 1 tsp
- **Lemon juice:** 1 tbsp
- **Coriander leaves:** 2 tbsp
- **Boiled peas:** 1/2 cup
- **Oil:** 1.5 tbsp
- **Butter:** 2.5 tbsp
- **Water:** 1.5 cups (approx)
- **Capsicum:** 1/2

METHOD

- In a pan take oil and butter. Add the pastes, onion and tomatoes, masalas, and tomato puree. Pour water and cook.
- Soak soya in hot water for 30 minutes. Squeeze out the water and churn them in a mixie. Add to the gravy. Cover and cook for 10 min. Add water and cover again for 10 min. Garnish with coriander leaves, butter and lemon juice. Serve with toasted pav.

— Monisha Mathur, Coimbatore

FIT BIT

TADASANA
(PALM TREE POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'tada' means 'palm tree' or 'mountain', and 'asana' means 'pose'. This pose is considered to be the blueprint that forms the basis of all other standing postures. This is an active pose, in which the practitioner engages in conscious awareness of muscle activation and posture. It is both physically and mentally grounding and can be used as a means of promoting stability in body and mind. This asana is believed to stimulate the root chakra, symbolic of a sense of safety, security and rootedness. This posture invokes Samasthiti, meaning equal or steady stance. Traditionally, the Drishti (gazing point) is at the tip of the nose. Some schools of yoga favour a gazing point straight ahead in order to maintain balance, or even suggest closing the eyes as a means of drawing the awareness inward.

STEPS

- Begin with standing straight on the ground and then take a small gap between your feet.
- Then, with a deep inhale, raise both your arms.
- Now, keep your arms upward by interlocking your fingers.
- Try to come on the toes by raising your heels simultaneously.
- At this stage, you can feel the pressure of stretching from your toes to fingers.
- Try to maintain this pose as long as you can with slow and deep breathing.
- Come back to the original position with a deep exhale.
- You can perform as many number of rounds as per your convenience after relaxing for a while.

BENEFITS

- Due to deep breathing, it provides strength and expands the lungs.
- Best exercise to increase the height.
- Develops and activates the nerves of the entire body.
- Gives strength to the vertebral column and heart.
- Good for regulating the menstrual cycle.
- Cures problems related to indigestion.
- Gives strength to arms and legs.
- Helps remove lethargy from the body.
- May correct flat feet.

LIMITATIONS

- Those suffering from headaches, low BP or insomnia may do this asana after consulting a yoga instructor.
- During pregnancy, avoid practising this asana.
- Don't put too much pressure on the knees as it may cause pain.

— by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

DEAR STRANGER
Dear Stranger by author Ashish Bagrecha offers a daily dose of poems, letters, philosophies, and perspective about love, life, the universe, hope and healing.
- On Spotify

22 YARNS BY GAURAV KAPUR
A podcast for cricket lovers from around the world, captained by Gaurav Kapur alongside a wide variety of cricket journalists, analysts, players, and retired cricket legends who will dig into cricket's most beautiful stories and anecdotes from both on and off the field.
- On Apple Podcasts

LIFETIME: AAYIRATHIL ORUVAN MGR
This podcast brings to you the story of Maruthur Gopalan Ramachandran, late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. It captures the essence of various aspects of his life – love, ambition, films, politics, controversies, and hard work.
- On Spotify

GHOST MAPS: TRUE SOUTHEAST ASIAN HORROR STORIES
Ghost Maps follows a mysterious narrator as he chronicles the supernatural in Singapore and around Southeast Asia. Inspired by stories generously shared by real people.
- On Spotify

SIMPLY KEN
Hosted by stand-up comedian Kenny Sebastian, this podcast is about tackling the weekly conflicts of a comedian. From handling negativity to churning new content, the comedian weaves in his observational humour to make this a strictly no advice podcast.
- On Spotify

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

KO
Ashwin, a photojournalist, supports his friend, Vasanthan, who is contesting in the upcoming elections. However, he is shocked when he realises that Vasanthan has connections with the Naxalites.
- Cast: Jiiva, karthika Nair, Pia Bajpiee, Ajmal Ameer, Prakash Raj

NEETHANE EN PONVASANTHAM
Childhood friends Varun and Nithya are in love with each other but due to different career choices, they break up with each other. Years later, Varun meets her and tries his best to win her back.
- Cast: Jiiva, Samantha Akkineni, Vidyullekha Raman, Santhanam

RAAM
Ram, a young man who is extremely attached to his mother, is suspected to be behind her murder. Soon, the combined efforts of Ram and the police lead them to the real killer.
- Cast: Jiiva, Gajala, Saranya Ponvannan, Rahman

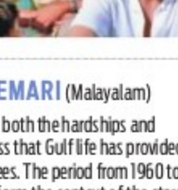
THITHIKUDHE
Chinnu and Anuradha, two childhood friends who are in love with each other, are seperated at an early age. Years later, fate brings them together in an unexpected way.
- Cast: Jiiva, Sridevi Vijaykumar, Vivek, Nassar

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE TIME VALUE OF MONEY
BY GERMAN NANDE
We've all heard the phrase "Time is money." But what do these two things actually have to do with one another? German Nande explains the math behind interest rates, revealing the equation that will allow you to calculate the future value of your money (if you wisely put it in the bank, that is).

2 MYSTERIES OF VERNACULAR: EARWIG
BY JESSICA ORECK AND RACHAEL TEEL
An earwig is neither an ear nor a wig; it is an insect. Jessica Oreck and Rachael Teel explain how folklore gave this bug its name, combining entomology with etymology.



3 A HERO OF THE CONGO FOREST
BY CORNEILLE EWANGO
Botanist Corneille Ewango talks about his work at the Okapi Faunal Reserve in the Congo Basin – and his heroic work protecting it from poachers, miners and raging civil wars.

4 WHY I'M ROWING ACROSS THE PACIFIC
BY ROZ SAVAGE
Five years ago, Roz Savage quit her high-powered London job to become an ocean rower. She's crossed the Atlantic solo, and just started the third leg of a Pacific solo row, the first for a woman. Why does she do it? Hear her reasons, both deeply personal and urgently activist.

5 WHY VETERANS MISS WAR
BY SEBASTIAN JUNGER
Journalist Sebastian Junger shares his experience embedded with American soldiers at Restrepo, an outpost in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley that saw heavy combat. He shows how combat gives soldiers an intense experience of connection. In the end, could it actually be "the opposite of war" that soldiers miss?

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

JAGUAR (Kannada)
The hero tries to stop a corrupt system that runs medical colleges in an illegal way.
- Cast: Nikhil Gowda, Deepti Sati, Jagapati Babu
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

HINDI MEDIUM (Hindi)
A couple from Chandni Chowk aspire to give their daughter the best education and thus be a part of and accepted by the elite of Delhi.
Cast: Irrfan Khan, Saba Qamar, Dishita Sehgal
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

ONAAYUM AATTUKUTTIYUM (Tamil)
A kid saves a dangerous dying fugitive and triggers off a chase between the hunter and the hunted and soon, the definitions blur.
Cast: Mysskin, Sri, Adithya Menon
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

MAYABAZAR 2016 (Kannada)
An honest cop, a conman and a hopeless romantic form an unusual team during the days of demonetisation to pull off a scam. A scam that is bigger than demonetisation, but things go haywire.
Cast: Prakash Raj, Raj B Shetty, Vasishta N Simha
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

SARILERU NEEKEVVARU (Telugu)
A tough army major is deployed to Kurnool on a mission to keep the country safe from external threats.
Cast: Mahesh Babu, Rashmika Mandanna, Vijayshanti
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

SWADES (Hindi)
A successful Indian scientist returns to an Indian village to take his nanny to America with him and in the process rediscovers his roots.
Cast: Shah Rukh Khan, Gayatri Joshi, Kishori Ballal
- Watch on: Netflix

PATHEMARI (Malayalam)
Narrates both the hardships and happiness that Gulf life has provided to Malayalees. The period from 1960 to the present form the context of the story.
Cast: Mammootty, Sreenivasan, Jewel Mary
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

FOREIGN

THE RITUAL (English)
A group of old college friends reunite for a trip to the forest but encounter a menacing presence in the woods that's stalking them.
Cast: Rafe Spall, Arsher Ali, Robert James-Collier
- Watch on: Netflix

ROMA (Spanish)
A year in the life of a middle-class family's maid in Mexico City in the early 1970s.
Cast: Yalitza Aparicio, Marina de Tavira, Diego Cortina Autrey
- Watch on: Netflix

THE PLATFORM (Spanish)
A vertical prison with one cell per level. Two people per cell. Only one food platform and two minutes per day to feed. An endless nightmare trapped in The Hole.
Cast: Ivan Massagué, Zorion Eguileor, Antonia San Juan
- Watch on: Netflix

THE WAILING (Korean)
Soon after a stranger arrives in a little village, a mysterious sickness starts spreading. A policeman, drawn into the incident, is forced to solve the mystery in order to save his daughter.
Cast: Jun Kunimura, Jung-min Hwang, Do-won Kwak
- Watch on: Amazon Prime

SUBSCRIPTION
Netflix: ₹ 199 for a month
Amazon Prime: ₹ 129 per month
Disney+Hotstar: ₹ 399 per year

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Manjamma Jogathi is crowdfunding to build a home for transgender folk artistes in Karnataka

Express Features

A high-energy performance, viewer enthusiasm, and satisfaction. These are common occurrences for artistes like Manjamma Jogathi, who is a transgender folk performer. But while the fruit of their labour is sweet, the worry of not having a space called 'home' overshadows all of it. Which is why Manjamma, the president of the Karnataka Janapada (Folk) Academy and the first transgender woman to hold this position, is crowdfunding on ketto.org to build a liveable space in Bellary.

"As transgender folk artistes, the only space we had as our 'home' after our performances was a small hut that belonged to my guru. The hut was hardly big enough to accommodate me and as a result, the students would sleep in a nearby temple. When people protested, they would move to sleep on train platforms. We built a two-room house in 2005, which started to fall apart last year. So we began to rebuild our home to accommodate our livelihood and extended family," says Manjamma. After already spending ₹4 lakh, due to lack of funds and the pandemic, the process has been halted. "We need another ₹5 lakh to complete building our home. It will accommodate at least five of us and have basic amenities such as a bedroom, kitchen, and an indoor toilet," she adds.

> **The hut was hardly big enough to accommodate me and as a result, the students would sleep in a nearby temple**
>
> —**Manjamma Jogathi,** transgender folk artiste

Manjamma knew her orientation of being a transgender girl since a young age. Her family refused to support her and asked her to leave the house. After leaving home, she met her guru, Kaalavva Jogathi – a recipient of the Rajyotsava award – from whom she learned the Jogathi art form. The dance is performed by the Jogappas, a community of transgender people in north Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra, to appease goddess Yellamma. "My parents thought that if I was a man, they could help me get married and build a family. If I was a woman, I could marry and start my own family. Since I am a transgender person, my family refused to do anything for me and told me to leave home and live with people such as myself. After I left, I met my guru from whom I learnt the Jogathi art form and started performing along with her," she says.

Her hope is to build this home for the Jogathis of today and tomorrow, who can then call it a space their own. "This home will be a testament to the Jogathi culture and it will help preserve our folk art. If I finish this one last job of building this home, I would have completed all my responsibilities," she says.

Manjamma Jogathi

Big, bright and bold

As guest lists grow smaller, wedding jewellery pieces are becoming bolder during the pandemic

Brides are choosing heritage jewellery with a twist

SHINING ON

- 'Hansuli' chokers coupled with long maharani haar or Krishna haar and panchlara (five-layered) necklace are back with a modern twist.
- Layering in jewellery is big as necklines have plunged. So a choker worn with multiple layers of long neck pieces is trending.
- Bigger nose rings are back.
- If maang tikkas are too intricate and indulgent, brides are choosing to go with one solid chunky neck piece.
- Pearls, diamonds and rubies are the minimalistic choice of the season.
- Statement jewellery, like a kamar bandh, is another trend that new-age brides and bridesmaids are going with.

> **We're seeing traditional tastes moving to unusual, stand-out pieces of jewellery. Surprisingly, clients are experimenting almost like now-or-never!**
>
> —**Triveni Vinod,** C Krishniah Chetty group of jewellers

PAIRED WITH PANACHE
Anuja Pandey

Weddings, with social distancing in place, are now unlike any conducted before. But some things don't change, do they? Every bride still wants to look her best on her D-day. In fact, the focus has shifted all the more to the wedding trousseau and jewellery, with live-streaming the ceremony on social media catching up as a trend.

Weddings and jewellery carry a sentimental value in India. Every piece of jewellery is not just a product but an heirloom that a mother passes on to her daughter. This year has seen the emergence of some new trends. While some chose a minimalistic look for the jewellery, considering a limited guest list, others went overboard since they could invest the money saved from band, baaja and baraat.

Traditional craftsmanship in jewellery-making has got renewed interest, and we now see a revival of artistic traditions in fading, distinctive, and indigenous forms of jewellery. Triveni Vinod of C Krishniah Chetty group of jewellers says, "We're seeing normally traditional tastes and preferences moving to unusual, stand-out pieces of jewellery. Surprisingly, clients are experimenting almost like now-or-never! Hence bolder, newer, colourful pieces seem to be taken up with ease. People want jewellery they know will last forever."

Many 'Insta-gen' brides and grooms like to invest in exquisite heirloom pieces and ornaments that could be for keepsake. This adds to the grandeur in every detail, which only goes on to make their weddings more Instagrammable and an affair to remember. A spokesperson from Amrapali Jewellers says, "During this pandemic, people have become aware that they would rather spend on jewellery than spend on lavish weddings."

The year 2020 has also seen an emphasis on what could be refashioned and reused, with a focus on sustainable and recyclable fashion. Hence, brides are choosing heritage jewellery with a twist for their trinket boxes. Brides love jewellery that can be worn with equal panache and elan, be it with lehengas and saris, or with gowns and western outfits. Jewellery designer Pallavi Foley says, "The hottest trend is pieces that you can wear every day, that say and do more for you than pure aesthetics. We have a line of 100 charms from India, which is seeing a big demand from across the world."

(The author is a social media influencer)

Spider-Man: Needs extra miles?

ARE YOU GAME?
Anusha Ganapathi

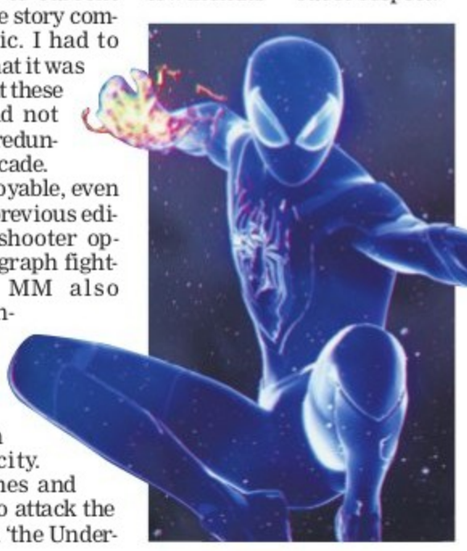
(This economics graduate spends her leisure time preparing for the zombie apocalypse)

Spider-man Miles Morales is the sequel to Marvel Spider-Man game, which released as a PlayStation exclusive. MM's release coincided with the launch of the new-generation PlayStation console — the PS5. It is, however, a small game. In an era where games are demanding more of our time tomake them indispensable parts of our routine (Assassins' Creed Valhalla which also released this week takes over60 hours for an average run), Spider-man was refreshing. In the sense that it left us wanting more.

The story features Miles Morales: a kid in school who finds himself with spider-powers, more potent than the "Original" Spider-man. His friends are scientific geniuses in high school, solving big-world problems in minutes, seemingly. The realism of the graphics in present-day New York city, relatable side missions, and dialogues that spoke to current situations made the story compellingly authentic. I had to convince myself that it was just fiction, and that these genius kids would not make all our jobs redundant in the next decade.

The game is enjoyable, even more so than the previous edition. Miles' web shooter options include holograph fighters this time. MM also introduces the venom attacks. The spider-kid's powers allow him to charge-up energy and release it in blasts of electricity. The venom punches and jumps allow him to attack the new enemies from 'the Underground' who carry more advanced tech than the Sable mercenaries in the previous release. The combat feels more fluid. The venom attack options are enabled right at the beginning, compelling us to engage regularly in confrontation. This puts us in a dilemma — because the stealth options are equally delightful. Miles has a 'camouflage' power which turns him invisible to enemies for limited time. This means that enemy territories can be conquered in stealth.

The rewards system in MM is also simpler than the previous edition, making upgrades less complex.The side mission completion unlocks the more powerful suits, and cheap web upgrades leave you with a token surplus.This simplicity comes at a price — time — the most critiqued aspect of the game. While the game has made no major updates to the general environment, the full version (for the price paid) is not accompanied by a commensurate amount of main mission gameplay. However, this is a subjective contention. Old fans like me, are satisfied with infinite swinging broken by occasional combat, even if it means repeating missions. Instead of rating this game, I will promise to not destroy spider webs for a few months — out of respect.



PLAY ON
Arjun Sukumaran

(Arjun is a gamer, book lover and an all-round renaissance man)

HEROES VERSUS VILLAINS

Last Bastion is a cooperative game for 1-4 players who take on the roles of fantasy heroes who must defend the last bastion from a seemingly endless wave of enemies. You could justifiably call this 'Helm's Deep: The Board Game' (it even has a dwarf being tossed on the box, for crying out loud), but how well does it embody this archetypal setting?

Mechanically, the game's incredibly simple — on your turn, you may move and you may perform an action, in whichever order you'd prefer. You can move your hero one space in any direction on the nine bastion tiles, so you're never more than two turns away from any other location. As for performing an action, you have two options — you can either activate the bastion tile you're on or you can fight an enemy.

Let's start with combat. Every turn, new enemies are going to appear and attack specific walls based on what colour they are. In order to take them out, you need to first be orthogonally adjacent to them and then do enough damage to overcome their resistance. How do you deal with damage? By rolling dice, although you're not completely beholden to random chance here. Any equipment tokens you're carrying (or any hero on your space) that match the colour of the enemy can also be used to supplement the dice results, and there are many special powers that allow you to manipulate those results too. Finally, if you're in one of the four corners, you can potentially fight both adjacent enemies at the same time; which is tougher to do but can buy you some breathing room.

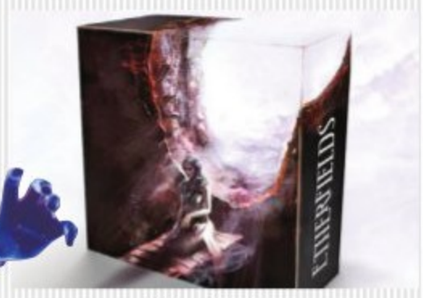
Making the decision harder are the bastion tiles, each of which is compellingly powerful. You can gain equipment tokens, heal any player and give them a free move, target an enemy with a trebuchet and eliminate one of its special abilities, deploy a dwarven trap that'll instantly kill the next enemy that shows up on that space, cast a spell that weakens one particular enemy type — these are all great options to have, but using any of them means forgoing a chance to fight that turn.

And, unfortunately, the enemy never does likewise. Most enemies will either cause something bad to happen when they arrive, when they're defeated or (most often) every turn they're still alive. These can range from the annoying (lose a token) to the painful (lose your character's special ability) to the avoid-at-all-costs (no equipment tokens may be used in combat, or corrupt a bastion tile and make it unusable).

Thankfully, you aren't without a few tricks up your sleeve either. Each character has a special ability that can initially sound a bit overpowered — for example, the paladin can activate the tile she's on and fight, while the falconer can gain any equipment token he likes every single turn — but in practice create a beautiful tapestry of choices. Each and every turn in Last Bastion is a puzzle with wildly disparate cogs, and it's always a joy clicking them into place and seeing everything work out just so.

If I haven't given it away already, Last Bastion is a fantastic game. It's never easy, and you'll always have to pull an assortment of rabbits out of a variety of hats to stay afloat, but that's what you want from a cooperative game, and this is one of the best cooperative games around.

WHAT'S NEW?

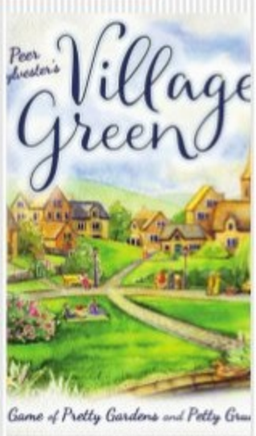


Etherfields

First wave copies of Etherfields are reaching backers now, and the initial response seems to be wildly positive. Awaken Realms don't exactly make unpopular games, but this might be their biggest hit yet.

Village Green

Peer Sylvester is a master of the quick yet thinky card game and his latest, Village Green, is no exception. The tagline reads 'a game of pretty gardens and petty grudges', and that really sums it up perfectly.



Creature Comforts

As demonstrated by Everdell, there's certainly a market for games with cute anthropomorphic animals that have a fun and engaging gameplay foundation, and Creature Comforts seems tailor-made to fill that niche.

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Sudeep-starrer *Phantom* to have a pan-India release

Sudeep

CE Features

Director Anup Bhandari has finished 70 per cent of the shooting of *Phantom*. The Sudeep-starrer action adventure drama seems to be having the potential to become a pan-India film, with the actor's popularity across the country working to its advantage. Further, it has a plot with a universal appeal and is being shot with a huge budget. Bankrolled by Manjunath Gowda under the banner of Shalini Arts, this was one of the first Indian films to go on floors in June, right amid the pandemic, and since then the team has executed its plans in a time-bound manner. Though an official announcement about the pan-India release is yet to be made by the producers. *CE* sources have confirmed the development. This will be Sudeep's second film after *Phailwaan* to have such a wide release. The crew is currently planning to begin their next shooting schedule in Kerala from the first week of December, after which they are likely to wrap it up with a song shoot in Bengaluru. *Phantom* will feature Sudeep as a police officer named Vikranth Rona. It also stars Nirup Bhandari and Neetha Ashok. The team is also said to have approached some Bollywood heroines for a guest appearance. The makers are keen to have Katrina Kaif or Nora Fatehi on board for a special song, and are currently in talks with the two actors. *Phantom's* artwork is being created by Shivakumar. It has music by Ajaneesh Loknath and cinematography by William David.

Sudeep's popularity across the country, coupled with a story by Anup Bhandari that features a plot with a universal appeal, is making the film a sure candidate for appealing to viewers across all regions

A still from the film

DEMAND RISES FOR HINDI DUBBING RIGHTS OF DARSHAN'S *ROBERRT*

The film, directed by Tharun Kishore Sudhir, will be released once theatres get a go-ahead for full occupancy

Darshan

A Sharadhaa

Darshan-starrer *Roberrt*, directed by Tharun Kishore Sudhir, has already made a big pre-release business through the audio, digital, and satellite rights. According to the latest buzz, there has been a rising demand for the Hindi dubbing rights of the movie, with the price offered said to have reached nine-digit figures in rupees. Films starring Darshan have always fetched a good demand in the Hindi cinema market. However, producer Umapathy S Gowda, who is also distributing the film, is yet to take a decision.

"Yes, we are flooded with inquiries from production houses who are keen to buy the Hindi dubbing rights, but I am yet to take a call," the producer said, adding that details will be revealed when the deal is closed.

Along with the Challenging Star, the action entertainer with elements of emotions and family drama boasts of an ensemble cast. It has Asha Bhat making her debut as the female lead. The film also stars Jagapathi Babu, who is sharing screen space with Darshan for the first time, and Vinod Prabhakar, Sonal Monteiro, Shivaraj K R Pete and Chikkanna in prominent roles. Arjun Janya has composed the music while DOP Sudhakar S Raj has handled the camerawork.

Roberrt, which was initially planned for release on April 9, was postponed due to the pandemic, and there were reports of the production house looking for a Christmas release. However, the decision has been ruled out, and they have now decided to release it when the government gives permission for increased occupancy in theatres. The production house has also confirmed that the film will be released in theatres first, and simultaneously in different languages.

> **Yes, we are flooded with inquiries from production houses who are keen to buy the Hindi dubbing rights, but I am yet to take a call.**
>
> — **Umapathy S Gowda,** Producer

Taapsee Pannu, Tahir Raj Bhasin begin filming for *Looop Lapeta*

CE Features

Taapsee Pannu-starrer *Looop Lapeta* has gone on floors today. The film, which also features Tahir Raj Bhasin, is a remake of Tom Twyker's 1998 German thriller *Run Lola Run*. The Hindi adaptation is being helmed by debutant Aakash Bhatia. It is produced by Sony Pictures India, Tanuj Garg, Atul Kasbekar and Aayush Maheshwari.

Run Lola Run follows a woman (Franka Potente) who desperately needs cash to bail out her boyfriend. Over the phone, he tells her she has precisely 20 minutes to obtain it. As Lola makes a frantic dash from her home, the film explores three possible outcomes of the scenario.

In a note, the makers of *Looop Lapeta* had stated that the story has been adapted to suit an Indian context.

Taapsee's last release was *Thappad* (2020). She essays a sprinter in the upcoming sports film *Rashmi Rocket*.

Taapsee Pannu

Bhumi Pednekar: Indian Award shows should include films released on OTT

CE Features

Bhumi Pednekar is not new to the web space — her film *Dolly Kitty Aur Woh Chamakte Sitare* dropped on OTT earlier this year. She is now awaiting the release of her next film, *Durgamati*, in the digital space.

With OTT platforms making major inroads into the industry, Bhumi feels content driven by the medium deserves to be eligible at various awards ceremonies in India.

"When we started out to make *Durgamati*, we wanted the entertain audiences in cinemas. Then, the pandemic happened and it is now making us realign as an industry. The fact that movie releases have become digital first, is a unique scenario that we are all living with today," Bhumi said.

There is a growing trend to include digital releases at all top awards across the globe. Bhumi feels the trend should be followed in our country, too. "In such an environment, the award shows of our country should include films that are released on digital platforms. It will be a huge conversation shifter for our industry and a necessary step to acknowledge the hard work that actors have put into making these magical movies."

Talking about her upcoming film *Durgamati*, Bhumi said, doing the film gave her creative satisfaction and she hopes it translates to success when it releases.

Bhumi Pednekar

Arshad Warsi joins Akshay Kumar in *Bachchan Pandey*

CE Features

Actor Arshad Warsi will be seen sharing screen space with superstar Akshay Kumar in the upcoming action comedy, *Bachchan Pandey*. The film also stars Kriti Sanon. Shooting begins in January on location in Jaisalmer and will continue till March. Arshad plays Akshay's friend in the film. Directed by Farhad Samji and produced by Sajid Nadiadwala, the film stars Akshay as a gangster who aspires to be an actor, while Kriti plays a journalist who wishes to be a director.

Trade analyst Taran Adarsh tweeted that the shoot will continue till March 2021. A source close to the project said, "The makers were looking for someone who could match Akshay's comic timing and they narrowed down on Arshad who, over the years, has aced this space. It's a first time pairing for the actors."

The team is currently on a recce in Jaisalmer and are planning to shoot at places like the Gadisar Lake and Jaisalkot. "Heavy duty action scenes will be shot at real locations, choreographed by stunt teams from across the country," added the source.

Top Gun: Maverick is all about real sweat, says Miles Teller

CE Features

Actor Miles Teller insists no special effects were used to film the action sequences of the Tom Cruise-starrer *Top Gun: Maverick*.

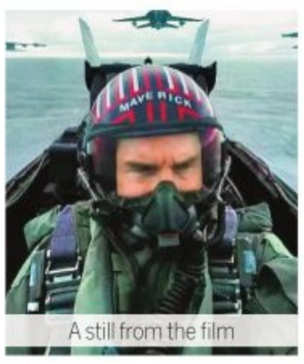
He stars in the sequel to 1986 hit *Top Gun* as Bradley 'Rooster' Bradshaw, the son of Nick 'Goose' Bradshaw, who was portrayed by actor Anthony Edwards. In the first film, Goose had died.

"There is no green screen in a *Top Gun* movie. Every shot, every stunt, was the result of the work, the real sweat, that we all put into it. The production was over the course of a full year, which was definitely the longest shoot I have ever been part of," said Teller.

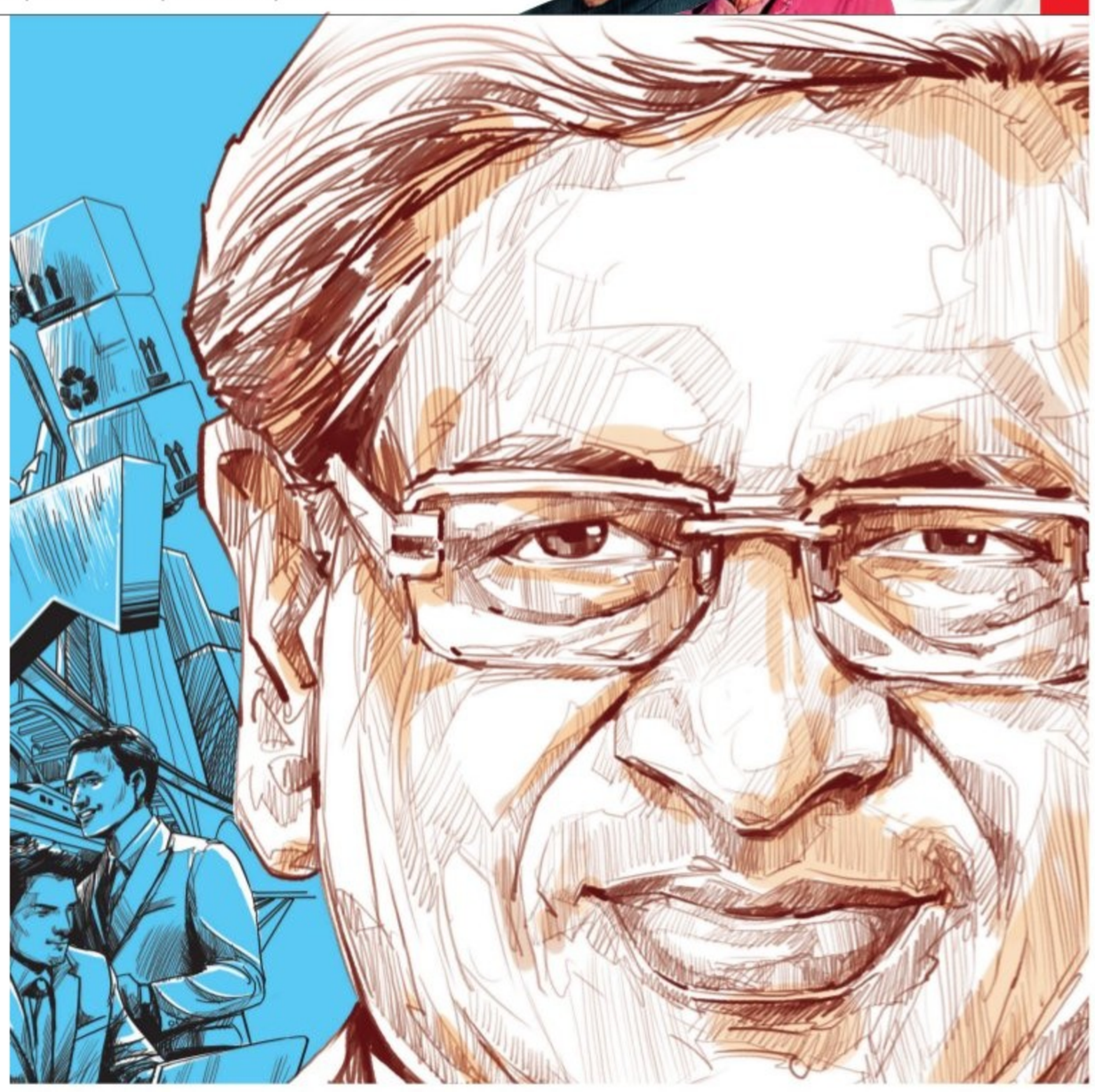
"Playing Goose's kid and getting to continue that storyline that was established in such a powerful way all those years ago, there is a lot of history there," added Teller.

"I think when audiences realise the character I play is that tiny kid they saw in the original, it is going to hit. I was able to see it a couple of weeks ago. The movie just blew me away, and my wife said, 'That might be the best film I have ever seen.' She was crying multiple times," he said.

Cruise returns as flight instructor Pete 'Maverick' Mitchell in the upcoming film.


A still from the film

Infotech's Era Of Stability



The decade of 1996-2006 can easily be termed as the golden era of Karnataka, steered by information technology, reflecting strong value proposition to many MNCs," says Richard H Gall, president of Cranes Software International Limited, who was then the managing director of TI India. According to him, infrastructure in Bangalore was being put in place and many MNCs felt a sense of growth and were harvesting their goals during the decade. "The percentage of expansion was much bigger during the time and SM Krishna was a key personality in building the confidence. He laid a strong foundation for education and industrial growth, which encouraged many global players to look at Bangalore. After the MNCs, the next big wave was the IT Parks," Gall says.

The turn of the millennium witnessed the growth of Internet based technologies which resulted in the dotcom boom and the city established itself as India's Silicon Valley in local and international media. "It was an era of stability which was necessary for companies to reap the benefits. Another important milestone was that the city attracted educated people from all over India, which meant that the challenge of shortage of human resources ceased to exist. Very critical high tech developmental projects started to be taken up in the city and almost every company's management was impressed," recollects Gall.

According to a report by Tholons, a full-service Strategic Advisory firm for Global Outsourcing and Research, the city's rise due to the exponential growth of the internet based businesses in the city and the resulting dotcom boom, led to the city become one of the hot spots for attracting technical talent from all around the country in the early 1990s.

> The ecosystem was congenial for information technology to strengthen, with many global giants setting base or expanding their presence in Bangalore, attracted primarily by the favourable policies of a rational chief minister like S M Krishna

"The new millennium saw Bangalore moving ahead of the dotcom bubble burst and the Y2K bug, and being in the process of incubation to take on the outsourcing industry for a better part of its last fifty year history. With the talent availability and expertise already developed the world took notice of the immense untapped potential. Bangalore was in a stage where it could offer fantastic cost arbitrage for the type of expertise already available," the report states and adds that the already existing Electronics City was recognised as the first of the six STPI units when the scheme was implemented.

"The value proposition for Electronic City was further enhanced with STP's broadband communication system being established in Bangalore while excellent telecommunication and internet connectivity was made a part of the incentive to locate in the city. The other large zone for outsourcing players developed in collaboration with STPI, the central/state governments and Tata's team from both India and Singapore. Construction for the ITPL began in early 1995 and within four to five years, the park had achieved close to 75% occupancy. Karnataka also became the first state to announce its IT Policy in the year 1997 (Information Technology Policy 1997)," the report states.

As a result, GE set a much bigger centre and Honeywell, Phillips, Siemens grew in terms of sheer volume of business, according to Gall. "Capability of manufacturing starting from HAL and others immensely contributed to the growth, creating an ideal ecosystem and utilising the talent resources. With the growth in manufacturing, engineering and technology, it was Bangalore rural which saw huge transformation, in turn giving a big opportunity for Karnataka. The city had also risen above the challenges of power and water, and given its capability, the leadership was the game changer, which came in the form of SM Krishna. He had the ability to articulate the opportunity and integrate all to an operational unit. It was no accident and happened very consciously," Gall says. He adds that people were consciously doing things to improve academics on the sidelines of the overall growth.

Early Entrants

The report by Tholons mentions that 'the early entrants like Texas Instruments (1985), Motorola (1987), HP (1989), Nortel (1991), Sun Microsystems (1995), Cisco (1995), Philips (1996), IBM (1997), and Intel (1998) were conservative to start with. However, once the value proposition was proved with success stories from these early captive setups, the ones who followed like GE (2000), Google (2004), Yahoo (2005), Microsoft (2005) among others became very strong cases promoting outsourcing and Bengaluru'.

"Hewlett-Packard's operations in India (called HP India Software Operations) started more than two decades back in the year 1989 and primarily concentrates on developing, enhancing and improving HP's product huge line. The major wave of expansion for India operations happened in the year 2000 with 2 new centres established in the city. IBM re-entered India after their exit in late 1970s due to restrictions which existed to MNCs at that time. Their entry back to India came with a joint venture with TCS. However, the opportunity of an establishment in Bangalore was soon visible and IBM Global Services was established in 1997. The centre first became the development and testing centre for IBM and worked on numerous significant projects like the Blue Gene and IBM's Giga Processor successfully. The expansion for IBM in Bangalore continued with another new facility for web-based application development, the Solution Partnership Centre (SPC)," the report states.

The decade saw the city establishing itself as a center of excellence, especially for low- and even high-end services. With many new avenues opening up, like animation technology, what was to follow was another decade which stamped Bangalore's destiny as India's Silicon Valley.

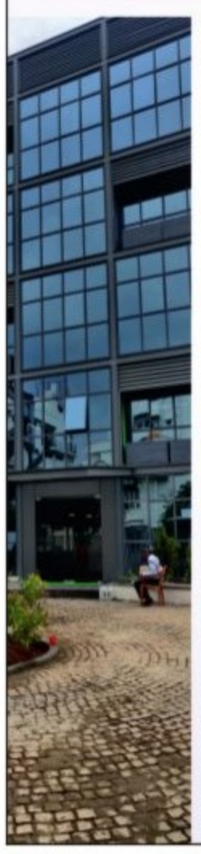
BANGALORE THE I.T. CAPITAL OF INDIA

KEONICS
ISO 9001 : 2008

Creating a New Dimension in the Electronics Sector

Shri B. S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri B.S. Yediyurappa, Hon'ble Chief Minister, in the presence of Dr. C.N. Ashwath Narayana Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister & Minister for Higher Education, IT, BT and S&T and Sri Harikrishna Bantwal Hon'ble Chairman, KEONICS, dedicating the newly constructed building by KEONICS at H.S.R. Layout.



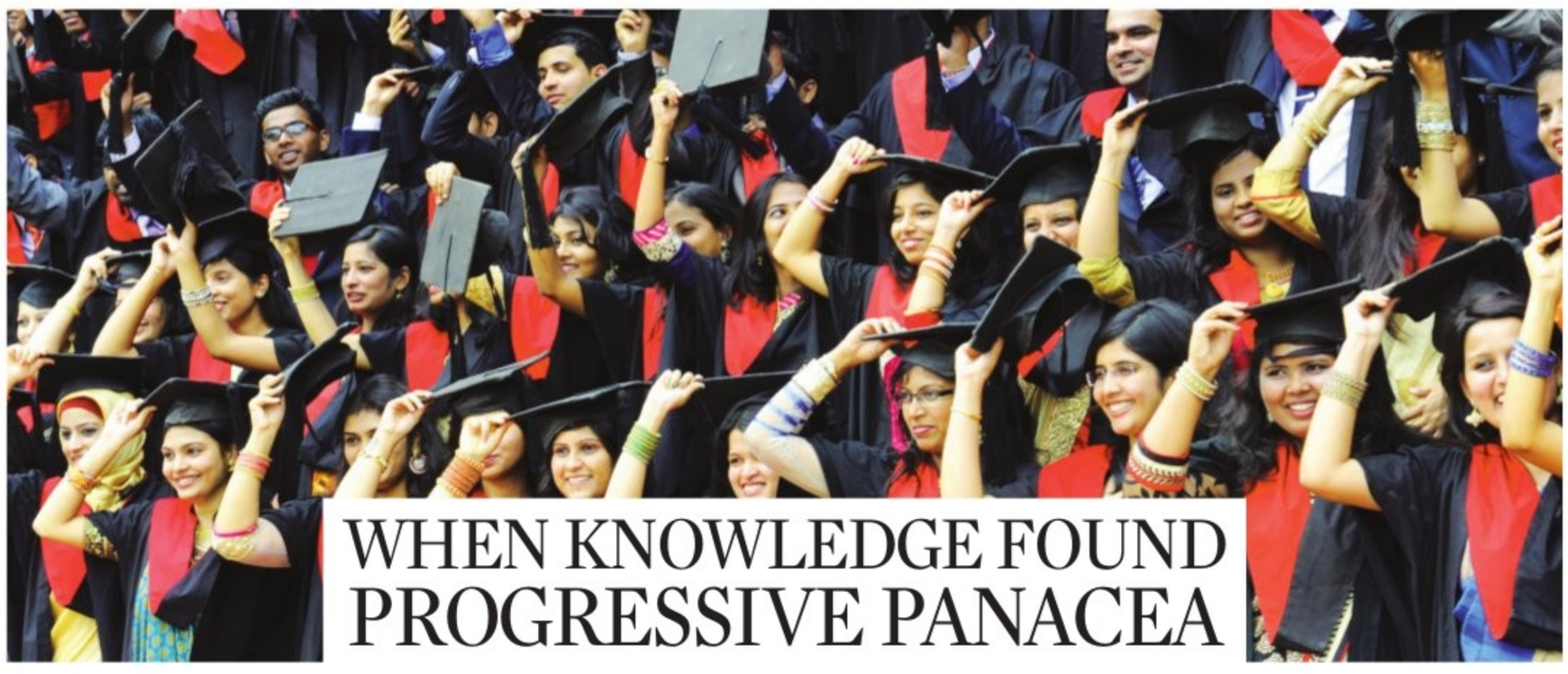
KEONICS has played a key role in development of electronics sectors in Karnataka. It has undertaken various programmes towards skill development and providing state-of-the-art services to the growth of IT Sector in the State. It has established a strong presence in providing training in computer literacy and related fields.

Activities of the Organization:

- The organization has been providing Manpower services on outsource basis to various departments of the State Govt. and has deployed 10,800 candidates of various cadres to 250 Depts.
- Conducted Computer Literacy Exam to 1,25,109 employees of the State Government and issued Digital Certficate.
- Owns and manages IT Parks in Shivamogga, Kalaburagi and Hubballi. Presently 79 IT Firms are operating from these Parks. Keonics provides office space for "Incubation and Nurturing of startups at HSR Layout, Bengaluru"
- Supply of Computers, Hardware and Software to Various Departments in the State.

KARNATAKA STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Regd. Office : 2nd Floor, TTMC 'A' Block, BMTC Building
Shanthi Nagar, K.H. Road, Bangalore - 560 027
Website: www.keonics.in

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene



WHEN KNOWLEDGE FOUND PROGRESSIVE PANACEA

WOODAY P. KRISHNA

Although its roots go back to 1993-1994, one of the most applaudable intervention programme in primary education, Sarva Shikshana Abhiyana, was put into effect during the decade of 1996-2006. Its objective of universalisation of 'access' to elementary education from 1 to 8th standards to all children up to the age of 14 years, enrollments and retention in elementary education and completion of 8th standard by all children, age-specific enrollment and full retention of all enrolled children, provision of education of a satisfactory quality with emphasis on life-skills and meaningful schooling were really inspiring.

The decade also saw the launch of the Nali-Kali approach to learning. It began in 1995 with UNICEF assistance when a group of 15 teachers from Heggada Devana Kote (HD Kote), a remote tribal block in Mysore District, visited the rural schools run by the Rishi Valley Rural Education Centre in Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh. Inspired by the principles of pedagogy which are entirely based on child-centered, activity-based learning, this group of teachers set into motion the processes for adapting the pedagogy to their own situation in HD Kote.

Drawing on their experience of classroom transaction, the teachers reviewed the learning competencies, broke them into small and manageable learning units, sequenced the learning units into a comprehensive learning ladder, developed activities for each learning unit which facilitated readiness for learning, instruction, reinforcement and evaluation, evolved a more equal and democratic classroom management system which is not based on the child's gender, caste, age or ability, but on the nature of the activity taken up by the child, and developed an evaluation system, which is non-threatening, continuous and comprehensive.

> From Mid-Day meal scheme to a spurt in international school and increase in private and deemed universities, the decade saw several reforms in primary and higher education in the state

According to Tasqeen Macchiwalla in Education: Nali-Kali – A Not So Silent Revolution for Joyful Learning in Karnataka, 'The learning ladder is inclusive of activities, which facilitate art and craftwork, puppet shows, story telling, shadow plays, etc. Each step of the learning ladder is denoted by pictorial symbols - dog for flash cards, giraffe for word games, beetle for song, dancer for action rhymes, etc., which enable the child to independently trace his/her progress in the subject learning ladder and choose his/her activity for the subject. As the child completes an activity, she/he also plots her progress on the progress chart pasted on the wall'.

The mid-day meal scheme was another milestone. In Karnataka, Children's Love Castles Trust started to provide midday meals in 1997. A total of eight schools were adopted and a food bank programme and an Angganwasi milk Programme were started. The food-bank programme was later replaced by the State Government midday meal scheme.

In the late 1990s, H G Govinda Gowda, the then education minister, introduced counselling for teacher transfer which resulted in curbing of red tapism and corruption. With the help of high level bureaucracy and highly motivated software support personnel, he developed the model for placement and transfer processes. In order to garner support from elected representatives at different levels, it was ensured that the Zilla Panchayat president and the local Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) were present at the time of counselling. He was also instrumental in introducing a common entrance test to recruit teachers. More than 90,000 teachers were appointed when he was the minister.

It was also during the decade that NCERT curriculum was introduced at all levels of education while the city saw spurt in International Schools, which was an unheard of concept.

PU and degree colleges also started coming up at the taluk level. It was during the decade that the idea of setting up a Knowledge Commission came through when think tanks came together and education policies were shaped. Deemed University status were granted to institutes of excellence and Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) was envisaged as a long-term programme of about 10-12 years duration to be implemented in 2-3 phases for transformation of the Technical Education System with the World Bank assistance.

In higher education, the decade saw growth in distance education sector, with online course, both multi-discipline and inter disciplinary courses. There was also a reduction in teacher-student ratio and an increase in women enrollment in higher education. UGC pay scale was introduced in the year 1996, and there was an overall improvement in infrastructure of government colleges as well as an increase in the number of colleges in the state.

The quality concept was institutionalised during the decade with the process of accreditation and a Higher Education Council was established, while the concept of autonomous colleges came up. Private sector education also expanded during the time frame and colleges started extensively using ICT and there was switch from 'chalk & talk' to smart boards. It was also a time when the prevailing mantra was 'technology cannot replace teachers but teachers who do not use technology will be replaced'.

Several new courses also started with new combinations and flexibility. The government came up with liberal finance options and loans for students pursuing higher education. It was also the time when there was an uniform calendar for all universities in place. E-content and E-education came to fore and reforms in examination-started lending transparency in administration and evaluation. Plenty of foreign collaborations and tie-up in higher education started and opportunities for students to go abroad and study expanded dramatically. UGC and AICTE became more friendly during this period and more and more premier institutions like IIMs, IITs, NLSUI, etc., came up.

Industry-Institute linkages were further strengthened and placement and training became part of the education process.

It was the time when people were exposed to ranking of institutions, creating quality consciousness among the students and parents. Specifically in 2002, it was held in the TMA Pai Foundation versus State of Karnataka case that 'the right to establish and maintain educational institutions, which grants, in positive terms, the right to every religious denomination or any section thereof to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes, subject to public order, morality and health'.

On the whole, the decade of 1996-2006, was indeed a fruitful era for education, paving way to becoming a futuristic knowledge destination. (The author is Honourary General Secretary of Seshadripuram Educational Trust)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Shri B. S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister

IMPACT OF
MGNREGS

ZILLA PANCHAYAT SHIVAMOGGA

ANTARJALA CHETANA

- More than 1,000 recharge structures built alongside canals and water bodies
- 425 open wells in agricultural lands.
- 9,624 cubic meter of soil moisture conservation activities in forest area.
- Farm ponds and Trench cum bunds in farmer's land.

RURAL HYGIENE THROUGH SOAK PIT

- Soak Pit are the systematic way to dispose house hold Gray water, there by avoiding water clogging on open roads & drains in rural areas.
- 13,500 Soak Pits are taken up as part of Soakpit Abhiyan.
- 6,380 Soak pits are constructed during 2020-21.

SAFE SHELTER FOR CATTLE

- 1931 Cattle sheds constructed
- Financial assistance for construction of Cattle sheds

Goat/Sheep Shed : ₹ 68,000/-
Pig Shed : ₹ 61,000/-
Cattle Shed : ₹ 43,000/-
Poultry Shed: ₹ 55,000/-

IMPROVED LIVELIHOOD THROUGH HORTICULTURAL CROP

- Provision for more than 38 varieties of horticultural crop
- 917 Ha of Areca nut cop area expansion

SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DURING COVID CRISIS

- 9,228 new jobcards are issued to the rural household who mostly migrates back to their villages due to unemployment

UPTO 2.5 LAKH PER HH

100 DAYS OF GUARANTEED EMPLOYMENT

Demand employment/individual work through Kayaka Mitra mobile App
Or
Through Toll free number:
18004258666

K S Eshwarappa
Minister of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj

Designed by @evolve.designs_

THE LEADER WHO SAW TOMORROW

MEERA BHARDWAJ

He took over the reigns of the state during the tumultous period between 1999-2004 and his chief ministership stands out for many reasons. S M Krishna attracted both brickbats and bouquets from his admirers, detractors and of course, the people.

Jumping into the heat and dust of Karnataka politics that was clearly divided on caste lines, Krishna as Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee President, managed to unite various factions of the Congress and rode to success winning a handsome majority of 133 seats in the assembly polls in 1999. Taking over as the 16th Chief Minister of Karnataka on October 11, he managed to complete his term till 2004.

After virtual non-governance and people's desire for a change in administration (in the aftermath of J H Patel's tenure that was marked by chaos and dissidence), the electorate in Karnataka looked towards the Congress and its mascot Krishna to give good governance, he being a seasoned and astute politician.

However, it was not an easy time for Krishna with the NDA alliance ruling the roost at the Centre and meting out a step motherly treatment to the state. Serving multiple terms as MLA and MP from Mandya district and twice appointed as Union minister under Indira Gandhi and also serving in various positions like Speaker, Deputy Chief Minister in his long political career helped him steer the state in difficult times.

Overcoming problems of drought, Cauvery crisis and Dr Rajkumar's kidnap, S M Krishna chose a non-confrontational path to make Bangalore, a well known destination of India.

The former chief minister is in fact, known as the father of modern Bangalore by encouraging the development of IT and BT sector and in the process, setting up industrial and IT parks and making it the IT capital of India. Apart from this, he is also known for taking up many citizen friendly initiatives : starting from creating power reforms with ESCOMS, modernisation and digitization of land records, the Bhoomi Project, and other such projects. Encouraging private-public participation, he was the in the forefront being the torchbearer of the Bangalore Agenda Task Force that was formed to give a new shape to the city with Bangalore faced with haphahazard development.

Although hailing from the Vokkaliga heartland of Mandya, Krishna was the urban face of Karnataka trying to modernise the capital of the state and making efforts to attract foreign investments to implement his roadmap for developing the infrastructure of the city and state.

Known as the tech savvy CM of Karnataka, Krishna was responsible for starting the Global Investors Meet in Bangalore to attract foreign and domestic investments to the state. This meet in fact, helped the state in regaining the reputation of Bangalore as the most favoured destination for investors. To make this meet a success, he personally selected a few dynamic bureacrats for running various departments to restore the sagging fortunes of the state.

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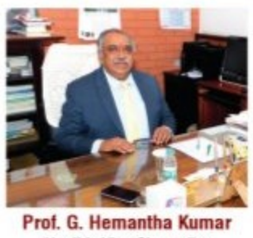
As the state needed huge investments in infrastructure especially for power generation, good road network in the hinterland, air connectivity from tier two and three cities and a good communication network, Krishna invited investments from MNCs and marketed the state as a business friendly destination.

However, in the initial years of his governance, Krishna had to face the problem of abduction of Kannada matinee idol Dr Rajkumar by sandalwood smuggler Veerappan on July 30, 2000. Faced with a huge public outcry and followed by violent incidents in many parts of Karnataka till the culmination of the abduction drama that lasted 109 days, Krishna had to face public ire and take the help of the neighboring state of Tamil Nadu to negotiate with notorious brigand Veerappan for Rajkumar's release that resulted in many allegations and controversies.

The kidnapping and killing of former minister H Nagappa by Veerappan further compounded Krishna's problem and he was pretty frustrated with the Special Task Force' (STF) inability to catch the brigand. Synergising infotech with polity, S M Krishna tried to modernise the administrative set up in the state, bringing in video conferencing to send orders to deputy commissioners sitting in remote districts, equipping officials with laptops, and also installing gadgets in the ower corridors of Vidhana Soudha. Busy fending off crisis after crisis in his term as the chief minister, S M Krishna will always be remembered for his contribution to Brand Bangalore as the Silicon Valley of the East and for launching of many projects to computerise and digitise administrative machinery which was in fact, the start of the E-governance revoluion.

UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE



Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar
Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

University of Mysore was established on 27th July, 1916. It is the sixth oldest university in the country and first in the State of Karnataka. Also, in a sense it is the first university of the country to be established outside the limits of British India. The university was founded as a result of efforts of the benevolent and visionary Maharaja of erstwhile Princely State of Mysore, His Highness Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar (1884 – 1940) and the then Diwan Sir M. Visvesvaraya (1860- 1962). The territorial jurisdiction of the university is now confined to the four southern districts of Karnataka State viz., Chamarajanagara, Hassan, Mandya and Mysuru.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya, Dr.S.Radhakrishnan and Prof. C. N. R. Rao, who were associated with this esteemed university, have secured 'Bharat Ratna', the highest civilian award of our country. Others like Sri R.K.Narayan and Sri R.K. Lakshman, Sri Kuvempu have been awarded with 'Padma Vibhushan'. Sri Kuvempu and Dr. U.R.Ananthamurthy have been conferred with 'Jnanapeeth' & Padma Bhushan award. University of Mysore is also home to a galaxy of stalwarts in the field of Education, Politics, Literature, Administration, Arts, Sports, Science and Technology.

ACHIEVEMENTS: • It is the first university in the Karnataka State to be accredited by NAAC in the year 2000 with Five-Star status and currently the university is re-accredited with CGPA score of 3.47 on a 4-point scale at A.

- NAAC has designated UoM as a 'High Performing Institution' and this tag is valid up to 2020.
- Recognized by UGC, Government of India as an 'Institution of Excellence' (IOE)
- Recognized by UGC, Government of India as a 'University with Potential for Excellence' (UPE)
- Recognized by UGC, Government of India as a 'Centre with Potential for Excellence in a Particular Area' (CPEPA)
- Identified as one of the top 20 universities in scientific publications and was awarded Financial assistance under DST PURSE Scheme.
- NIRF Ranking 2020 by MHRD, Govt. of India: University of Mysore got 27th position in India. 1st in Karnataka. 47th position as per overall assessment critera.

Statue of Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadeyar

- Identified by the Government of Karnataka as 'Innovative University' (2009).
- QS BRICS ranks the university as 151st among the Asian Universities.
- University of Mysore was identified as the Best University in the country in the field of National Service Scheme (NSS) and was awarded with 'Indira Gandhi National Award', from His Excellency Sri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India, during November, 2016. The university was also given 'State Award' by Government of Karnataka during May, 2017 for its contribution towards NSS.
- The overall h-index (Scopus) for published research is 69 with 6965 publications since 1986. The h-Index of more than 25 faculties is greater than 15.
- Faculty of UoM have a high national and international profile and have be en recipients of major National and International Awards. Several faculty also belong to major National and International Academies.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES: University of Mysore is offering various Graduate/Post-Graduate degree, diploma, certificate, M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes. There are five faculties viz., (1) Arts, (2) Commerce, (3) Education, (4) Law & (5) Science and Technology. UoM has a great tradition in conducting research and carrying out extension activities. Most of the Post-Graduate programmes are of international repute and known for excellence in research. University of Mysore is offering 47 specialized programmes. Research projects worth crores of rupees have been sanctioned to various departments of the university by national and international institutions and funding agencies.

Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, has recognized the Departments of Botany, Bio-technology, Microbiology, Physics, Sericulture and Statistics under the Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST) Programme. University Grants Commission (UGC) has recognized the Departments of Bio-Chemistry, Bio-Technology, Chemistry, Commerce, Computer Science, Earth Science, Food Science and Nutrition, Journalism and Mass Communication, Library and Information Science, Mathematics, Physics, Political Science, Statistics, Zoology and Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies under the Special Assistance Programme (SAP).

NATIONAL FACILITIES: University of Mysore is a cradle for promotion and development of many national facilities that are currently used by researchers from universities across India. Department of Bio-technology, Government of India, in the year 1990 recognized the potential of Department of Studies in Zoology and awarded a grant for the establishment of a national facility for Genetic stocks of Drosophila melanogaster.

Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, in the year 1995 has set up a National Single Crystal Diffractometer Facility at the Department of Studies in Physics. In the year 2000, DST funded the setting up of an Image Plate System and it is now well-equipped to cater to the needs of the crystallographic community in India.

Department of Studies in Bio-technology has established Asian Seed Health Training and Research Centre with the support of Danish International Development Assistance (DANIDA) and Danish Seed Health Centre (DSHC) in the year 2002, to strengthen regional co-operation among Asian countries in the area of seed health training and research. Vijnana Bhavan of University of Mysore was inaugurated in the year 2013 to facilitate and encourage the research activities with the funding from IOE, UPE, CPEPA and PURSE. Audio-Visual Research Centre which was established in the year 1996 has been renamed Educational Multimedia Research Centre (EMRC). It is the only institution of its kind set up by the UGC in the State of Karnataka. EMRC broadcasts educational programmes on EDUSAT, a satellite launched exclusively for transmission of education-related programmes by Government of India. The centre has established a Virtual Education Studio in order to conduct interactive classes and the centre is also a recipient of many National - level Awards.

IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS : Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Babu Jagjivan Ram Studies, Research and Extension Centres, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Centre for Philosophy and Indian Culture, Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies, Institute of Development Studies, B.N. Bahadur Institute of Management Science, School of Planning and Architecture, Sri Basaveshwara Centre for Social Change, Third Sector Research Centre, Manasagangotri Educational Institution, School of Foreign Languages, Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy, Centre for Women Studies, UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, Oriental Research Institute, National Centre for History of Science and School of Law.

BEST PRACTICES AND INITIATIVES: • The overall human resource of the university is strongly tilted to accommodate socially and economically marginalised groups. • Green Technology has been adopted in the university campus. A vermin- compost centre is set up to convert organic waste into manure. • DRISHTI- A special support programme for visually challenged students. • Solarisation of campus to reduce electricity consumption. • Adopted e-governance in administration. • Financial Literacy Program in 100 villages during the Centenary Year (2016-17). • Introduction of Flexible Choice Based Credit System from the academic year 2017-18. • Introduction of GIAN program through MHRD. • Introduction of MOOCs through EMRC. • Institution of Centenary Scholarships of Rs.10,000/- each to meritorious students. • Grant of Minor Research Projects through university's own funds. • Joined hands with Government of India's Swachh Bharath Mission and put in place a Co-ordinating Committee to regularly take up campus cleaning activities. • Centre for Promotion of Science in Schools (CPSS) is a unique initiative to familiarise and attract children in schools towards Science and Scientific world. • As an important community initiative, the university has undertaken the responsibility of protecting and maintaining Kukkarahalli lake. • Supernumerary seats have been earmarked for all PG courses for the children of those farmers from Karnataka, who have committed suicide under the pressure of debts.

SUPPORT SERVICES: • Directorate of Student Welfare (DSW) • International Centre • Centre for Proficiency Development and Placement Services (CPDPS) • Centre for Information Science and Technology (CIST) • Centre for Competitive Examinations • Employment, Information and Guidance Bureau • Special Cell for SC and ST • OBC Cell • Prasaranga and Printing Press • University Computer Centre (UCC) • University Industry Interaction Centre (UIIC) • Information and Communication Division (ICD) • Library • Sports

MILESTONES:

Centenary Celebrations: University of Mysore celebrated its centenary year during 2015-16. The year-long celebrations were inaugurated by His Excellency Sri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India, on 27th July, 2015. As part of the celebrations, 8 Nobel Laureates delivered Special Lectures. Seminars and workshops were conducted throughout the year, by various departments inviting eminent scholars. The valedictory address of the Centenary Celebrations was delivered by His Excellency Sri Hamid Ansari, Hon'ble Vice-President of India, on 22nd July, 2016.

NOBEL LAUREATES VISITED UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE DURING CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Dr. Muhammed Yunus
First Nobel laureate to deliver the Centennial Lecture

Prof. David J Gross
American Theoretical physicist & string theorist awarded Nobel Prize in Physics in 2004

Prof. John Gurdon
English Developmental Biologist. Lasker Award in 2009

Prof. Dan Shechtman
Philip Tobias Professor of Materials Science Iowa State University

Prof. Manjula Bhargava
Canadian – American Mathematician awarded Fields Medal in 2014

Prof. Serje Haroche
French Physicist Nobel Prize in 2012

Sir Richard Jhon Roberts
English Bio-Chemist &Molecular Biologist Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1993

Prof. Venkataraman Ramakrishan
Indian – American – British Structural biologist Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009

Indian Science Congress: University of Mysore in association with Indian Science Congress Association successfully organized the 103rd Indian Science Congress during 3rd to 7th January, 2016. The focal theme of the Congress was 'Science and Technology for Indigenous Development in India'. It was inaugurated on 3rd January, 2016 by Sri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Indian Social Science Congress: Indian Academy of Social Sciences (IASS) in association with University of Mysore organized the 40th session of Indian Social Science Congress from 19th to 23rd December, 2016 with the focal theme 'People's Health and Quality of Life in India'. Padmabhushan Dr. B. M. Hegde inaugurated the congress.

100 Years Convocation Day

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Addressing the gathering online during the 100th convocation ceremony of University of Mysore, virtually from New Delhi, Modi highlighted that "One should introspect and identify the talent in them. It should be not just for personal development, but also for the development of the country, as new India provides a plethora of opportunities to achieve on the basis of personal excellence. So the idea of Atma Nirbhar is floated".

"I have been making efforts to interact with young friends during such occasions (like convocation). Though it would have been a different experience had I been there at the ceremony", said Modi, before setting the tone of his address.

Vijnana Bhavan : The Vijnana Bhavan is constituted with centralized facility with major projects like IOE, UPE, CPEPA and DST-PURSE. A huge grant is given by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India elevated the University to the status of Institution of Excellence in the thrust area of Bio-diversity, Bio-prospecting and Sustainable Development. The Institution of Excellence is a prime productive research and Core Instrumentation facility created under the University. Vijnana Bhavan has international standard central instrumentation facility placing all the sophisticated equipments like Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, Flow Cytometry, Scanning Electron Microscope, Confocal Microscope, Liquid Chromotography-Mass Spectrometry, High Performance Liquid Chromatography, Live Cell Imaging Microscope, Liquid Nitrogen Plant, Next Generation Sequencer and X-ray Diffraction Spectroscopy under the same roof.

University Grants Commission (UGC Project) has sanctioned Rs.50 crores considering University of Mysore as University with Potential for Excellence (UPE) in the year 2012, for the period of five years and extended for one more year. The project planned in two different areas; Focused Area – I: Processing, Characterization & Applications of Advanced Functional Materials, Focused Area – II: Media and Social Development – A Case study of Karnataka. The following facilities were established under this scheme - High Performance Computing Environment (HPC), Adoption of Green Technology in the University Campus, Centre for Education of Visually Challenged –Drushtee, Multimedia Learning Resource Creation Centre (MLRCC), Earn While You Learn Scheme, Workshops, Conferences and Seminars, Centre for Proficiency Development, Upgradation of Printing and Publication Units, Books and Journals, Sports and Games, Strengthening of Department Laboratories and Hostels and E-governance.

Professors of the University of Mysore listed in top 2 % researchers in various subjects of the world as provided by Stanford University 2020.

Prof. K. S. Rangappa
Section: Organic Chemistry.

Prof. K. Basavaiah
Section: Analytical Chemistry

Prof. K. Byrappa
Section: Material Sciences

Vice-Chancellor's Message : University of Mysore enjoys a rare and unique honour of carving out 4 universities in Karnataka State, these being Bangalore University in 1964, Mangalore University in 1980, Kuvempu University in 1987 and Karnataka State Open University in the year 1996. I take this opportunity to welcome you all to this citadel of learning, which provides multi-disciplinary learning opportunities complemented by work-integrated learning with emphasis on allround personality development.

- Prof. G. Hemantha Kumar

N DHARAM SINGH
28 MAY 2004
3 FEBRUARY 2006

THE STAUNCH, FRIENDLY LOYALIST

He started his political career as a socialist. He was brought up under the pulsating influence of Bhim Sena founder B.Shyam Sunder.

Dharam Singh Narayan Singh (born 25 December 1936) was the 17th Chief Minister of Karnataka. He was a Member of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly for seven consecutive terms and a Member of Parliament representing Bidar in the 14th Lok Sabha.

Dharam Singh was born in Nelogi village of Jevargi taluk in Gulbarga District. He obtained his MA and LLB degrees from Osmania University, Hyderabad.

Singh began his long innings in politics as an Independent Corporator in the Gulbarga District City Municipal Council by contesting against his own brother.

He started his political career as a socialist. He was brought up under the pulsating influence of Bhim Sena founder B.Shyam Sunder. In fact he was his election agent who contested for Parliamentary seat from Gulbarga and Bidar and Singh toured along with him to these districts. He was the Secretary of Hyderabad Karnataka Youth League.

In the late 1960s, he joined the Indian National Congress and remained a staunch loyalist since then, without deserting the party even when it passed through its worst times of D. Devraj Urs, where he formed his own outfit getting separated from the INC.

This made him a strong contender for the post of Chief Minister in 2004 and first choice for Sonia Gandhi among this set of pair of leaders from North Karnataka of Gulbarga District.

Interestingly, Gulbarga has a rare distinction of so-called *Guru - Shishya parampara* (Teacher disciple) tradition, which played a major role in deciding politics of this region from Bahamani dynasty era, where Hasan Gangu's disciple was Bahaman Shah.

Later, this same culture was followed in an era of Social revolution during the period of the 12th century A. D. Surprisingly, people noticed this same tradition in this above stated political dual pair of Mallikarjun Kharge and Dharam Singh. He even gave up the Gulbarga Lok Sabha seat of which he was the Member of Parliament to accommodate C.M. Stephen, who was a Union Minister in the Indira Gandhi Cabinet, in 1980 on Indira Gandhi's directions.

He has served as a minister under various chief ministers such as Devaraj Urs, R. Gundu Rao, S. Bangarappa, M. Veerappa Moily and S. M. Krishna, and handled diverse portfolios such as Home, Excise, Social Welfare, Urban Development and Revenue.

He was KPCC president in the 1990s when his party was out of power. At that time, the Congress' national leadership was headed by Sitaram Kesri, for whom Singh was said to be a favourite.

He lost out to his senior colleague S.M. Krishna in the race to the Chief Minister's post in 1999. Then, he joined the Krishna ministry and handled the Public Works Department portfolio.

When the 2004 state elections resulted in a hung assembly with no party getting enough seats to form a government, the Congress and Janata Dal (Secular) decided to come together and form a coalition government. Known for his adaptability and friendly nature and his close political ties with H. D. Deve Gowda, Dharam Singh was the unanimous choice of both parties to head the government. He was sworn in as Chief Minister on 28 May 2004. He was the second leader from Gulbarga to become Chief Minister after Veerendra Patil. For almost 20 months, he led the fragile coalition through many ups and downs.

He was criticised for not being assertive in sense coming from minority community and further allowing the JD(S) supremo to join hands, which was their junior partner in coalition to call the shots in the government.

He left office on 3 February 2006 after the collapse of the Coalition government formed by the Congress (I) due to a defection in the JD(S) engineered by H.D. Kumaraswamy, who succeeded him as Chief Minister, leading a new coalition with the BJP.

During the tenure of H.D. Kumaraswamy, Dharam Singh was the Leader of Opposition in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly.

However, in the 2008 state elections he was defeated by a political lightweight, Doddappagouda Patil Naribol of the BJP, by a slim margin of 52 postal votes.

In the Lok Sabha elections held in May 2009, he contested from Bidar Lok Sabha constituency and emerged victorious against his former colleague Bhagwant Khuba of the BJP by a huge margin of 92,222 votes.

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